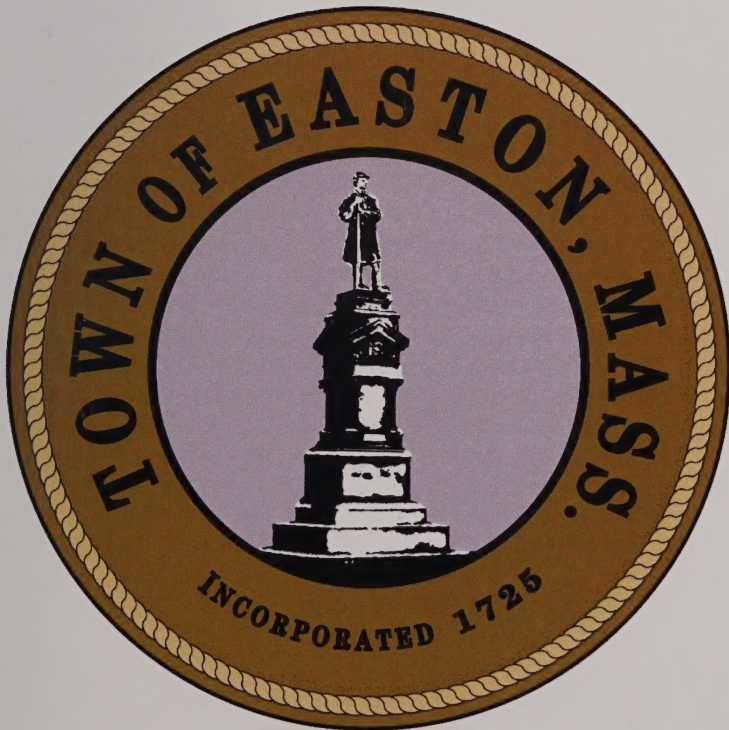


2017

ANNUAL REPORT

TOWN OF EASTON



TOWN OF EASTON 2017

www.easton.ma.us

Incorporated	1725
Area of Town	29.04 Square Miles
Population	23,112 (2010 Federal Census) 22,450 (2017 Town Census)
Form of Government	Open Town Meeting
Total Assessed Real and Personal Property	\$3,377,223,341
Valuation as of Jan 1, 2017	
Annual Town Meeting	Third Monday in May May 15, 2017
Annual Town Election	Fourth Tuesday in April April 25, 2017

REPRESENTATIVES FOR EASTON 2017

CONGRESSMEN

Elizabeth Warren, US Senator

Edward Markey, US Senator

Joseph Kennedy III, Representative in Congress, 4th Congressional District

STATE SENATORS

Michael D. Brady, (D-Brockton) - 2nd Plymouth & Bristol (Precincts 1 & 2)

Walter F. Timilty (D-Milton) - Norfolk, Bristol & Plymouth (Precincts 3, 4, 5, 6)

REPRESENTATIVES IN GENERAL COURT

Claire D. Cronin (D-Brockton) - 11th Plymouth District (Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Shaunna L. O'Connell (R-Taunton) – 3rd Bristol District (Precinct 6)

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL

Robert Jubinville (D-Milton) - 2nd District (Precincts 3, 4, 5, 6)

Christopher A Iannella, Jr. (D-Boston) - 4th District (Precincts 1 & 2)

**TOWN OF EASTON
APPOINTED BOARDS & COMMITTEES
(as of December 31, 2017)**

524 DEPOT ST MASTER PLAN DEV TEAM

Tana M Babbitt	2018
Kyla Bennett	2018
Robert W Benton	2018
Anne Daley	Ex-Officio
Stephanie Danielson	Ex-Officio
Michael Ganshirt	2018
John Homer	2018
Rory Kallfelz	2018
Catherine Kidd	2018
James Lee	2018
Kevin McIntyre	2018
Todd Sandstrum	2018
Andrew Williams	2018

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

Stephanie Alves	2018
Nikki Dostoomian	2019
Samantha Hill	2018
David Mills	2018
Amy Rodrigues	2018
Krisanne Sheedy	2019
James Truax	2019

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Sean Flynn	2018
Rosa Galeno	2019
Edmund Hands	2020
Michael Luke	2018
Kathryn O'Dwyer	2020
Eric J Silverman	2020
Vacancy (Steven Miller)	2019

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Leonard Berkowitz	2019
Nancy Deluca	2018
Kevin McIntyre	2018
Jonathan Pike	2018
Janice Wolffe	2018

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Ben Carroll	2018
Barbara Methelis Crowley	2019
Patricia Locke	2020

BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

Craig B Barger	2018
Lisha Cabral	Ex-Officio
Patrick J McCarthy	2018
Kevin McIntyre	2018
Caroline S O'Neill	2018
Connor Read	Ex-Officio
Jacqueline Weisman	2018
Janice Wolffe	2018

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Harris Bloomwald	2019
Adam Crowley	2020
Stuart Schoenfeld	2018

CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COM

Janice Fowler	2020
John Fresh	2019
Wayne Southworth	2018

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Harris Bloomwald	2018
James Condon	2021
Peter Deschenes	2018
Gregory John Fraser, Sr.	2018
Colin McCarthy	2019
Wendy Nightingale	Ex-Officio
Christopher Veale	2020

CEMETERY COMMISSION

Timothy V Hurley	2019
Brian Joyce	2018
Katherine Minsky	2020

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Timothy Garner	2019
Sherraine Glover	2018
Eric Kamens	2018
William J McAuley	2019
Jason T Sutton	2020

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COM.

Amanda Buck Varella	2019
Michael Goodman	2018
Edmund Hands	2020
Meredith Keach	2018
James Lee	2018
Dennis Sheedy	2017
Gregory Strange	2018
John Ventresco	2018
Avery Lee Williams	2020

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Stefan Cautino	2018
Daniel Farren	2019
Michael Goodman	2019
William T Humphrey	2020
Rory Kallfelz	2020
Jonathan D Chace	Associate Member
Christopher Patrick	Associate Member

CONSTABLES

William Amrhein	2019
Robert Bishop	2020
James Carey	2020
Margaret Carey	2020
Brian James Flavin, Jr	2020
Peter E Gutierrez	2020
James T Hartford	2018
Jerold Loomis	2019
Matthew Anthony Lupica	2018
Harold L March	2019
David Martel	2020
Edward Mattingly, Jr.	2018
Matthew Thomas Pauliks	2018
Brent Michael Peterson	2018
William E Scharnick	2018

COUNCIL ON AGING

Rose Friedeborn	2019
Daniel Ghardy	2019
Marie Graca	2018
Lois Parker	2020
Jean Shearing	2020
Frank Spillane	2020
Vacancy (Melinda Nelhuebel)	2018

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Pamela Borbely	2019
Juliette Coughlin	2019
Michael Dipietro	2020
Melissa Foley	2018
Beth Goldman Galer	2019
Patrick Lally	2020
Jason O Mohn	2020
Susan Ricciardi	2019
Haylie Rodriguez	2018
Catherine Sutton	2018
Sarah Truax	2020

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Bruce Boyer	2020
Stephanie Danielson	Ex-Officio
Daniel Farren	2020
Dottie Fulginiti	2018
Jon Holbrook	2020
Roy Kok	2019
Timothy McCaul	2019
Kevin McIntyre	2018
Keith McLaughlin	2020

GREEN COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Craig B Barger	2018
Michelle Durrance	2018
Andrew Howarth	2017
Hayley Kallfelz	2018
Christina Refford	2020
Vacancy (Robert Laird)	2019

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Ian Graham	2019
Timothy V Hurley	2019
Paul A Panaikas	2018
Amy Spencer	2020
Gregory Strange	2020
John Ventresco	2018
Mikaela Wolfe	2020

HUMAN RESOURCES BOARD

John Curran	2020
Mahsa Khanbabai	2019
Robert MacLennan	2019

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Craig B Barger	2018
Ilisabeth S Bornstein	2020
Karen Chan	2020
Amy Gershman	2019
Sharyn Katz	2019
Alikki Kiniklis	2018
Tabitha May-Tolub	2019
Janice Narsasian	2018
Caroline S. O'Neill	2018
Pratima Penumarthy	2019
Sumaiya Zama	2018

LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

William Ames	2019
Kelly S Bressette	2018
Nancy Donahue	2019
James Fowler	2020
Karen Hays	2019
Kevin Kidd	2018
Gerard Marsan	2020
Donna Richman	2018
Hazel Varella	2019

MARIJUANA POLICY ADV. COMMITTEE

Laura Arboleda	2018
Wayne Benson	2018
James Keith Boone	2018
Dottie Fulginitti	2018

MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Lisha Cabral	Ex-Officio
Kenneth Carlson	2020
David Field	Ex-Officio
James Hopkins	2018
Jane Martin	2018
Larry Mowatt	2019
Andrew Williams	2019
Vacancy	2018
Vacancy (School Representative)	2020

PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

Deborah Balcarek	2018
Wayne Benson	2021
David Clymens	2019
Peter Deschenes	2020
Charles Malo	2018
Gregory Strange	2022

PUBLIC SPACES COMMITTEE

Cynthia Boyce	2018
Cheryl Morrison	2018
Francis Murphy, Jr.	2018
William Palmer	2018
Catherine Sutton	2018

RECREATION COMMISSION

Tana M. Babbitt	2020
Robert W Benton	2020
Kevin Cross	2019
Steven Gaito	2019
Jennifer Gallagher	2019
Charles Hammond	2018
Meredith Keach	2018

RENT CONTROL BOARD

See Board of Selectmen

SCHOOL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thomas W Brussard
Lisha Cabral
Kenneth Carlson
David Field
Dottie Fulginitti
Ben Hampton III
Carly Hudson
Jane Martin
Caroline S O'Neill
Connor Read
Rebecca Tellyer
David Twombly
Ann Weintrob

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Ryan Cook	2022
Steve Merlin	2018
Walter Mirrione	2019
Paul Prew	2020
Thomas Pursley	2018
Michael Spillane	2021
Edward C Watson	2022

**TOWN OF EASTON
ELECTED OFFICIALS
(as of December 31, 2017)**

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Michael J McKenna	2019
Raymen Morrell	2020
Scott Timulty	2018

BOARD OF HEALTH

Laura Arboleda	2018
Lynne LeBlanc	2020
Elizabeth Reichman	2019

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Craig B Barger	2020
Dottie Fulginiti	2019
Kevin McIntyre	2018
David Mills	2019
Vacancy (Daniel Murphy)	2018

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Thomas Brussard	2020
Gregory John Fraser, Sr.	2018
Ben Hampton III	2018
Patrick C Hellen	2020
Stephanie M. Keller	2019
Marc Lamb	2019
Patrick J McCarthy	2018
Roberta A Verville	2020
Janice Wolffe	2019

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Thomas Thibeault (State Appointee)	2019
Krisanne Sheedy	2018
Dennis Sheedy	2017
Vacancy (William Anderson)	2020
Vacancy (Andrea McDougall)	
*Pamela M Widdop	
*John Sharpe	

*appointed to fill vacancy until 4/24/18

REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Michael Pietrowski	2018
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SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Nancy Deluca	2019
Michelle Durrance	2020
Jane Martin	2019
Caroline S. O'Neill	2020
Jacqueline Weisman	2018

TOWN MODERATOR

Kate Welch	2018
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**TOWN OF EASTON
DEPARTMENT HEADS
(as of December 31, 2017)**

Town Administrator
Assistant Town Administrator
Chief Assessor
Chief of Police
Collector / Treasurer
Dir. Health & Community Services
Inspector of Buildings
Director Planning & Economic Development
Assist. Planning Director / Environmental Planner
Director of Public Works / Town Engineer
Finance Director / Town Accountant
Fire Chief
Information Systems Manager
Library Executive Director
Recreation Program Director
School Superintendent
School Superintendent Assistant
Town Clerk
Water Division Operations Manager

Connor Read
Vacant
Robert Alford
Gary Sullivan
Linda Hawkes
Kristin Kennedy
Mark Trivett
Stephanie Danielson
Andrea Langhauser
David Field
Wendy Nightingale
Kevin Partridge
Michael Deltano
Uma Hiremath
Anne Daley
Dr. Lisha Cabral
Christine Pruitt
Danielle M. Sicard
John J. Marsh

Town Counsel

Mead, Talerman & Costa, LLC

Town Labor Counsel

Mirick, O'Connell, DeMallie &
Lougee, LLP

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

2017 was a year of change, challenge and opportunity for the Town of Easton, beginning with the departure of long-time Town Administrator David Colton. Mr. Colton served the town for over ten years and we thank him for the contributions he made over the years in leading the town forward. The Board voted to appoint Connor Read to the permanent position of Town Administrator in September. Mr. Read has served the town for more than five years in various positions beginning with Citizen Business Advocate, Assistant Town Administrator, Acting Town Clerk and Acting Town Administrator. We welcome Connor to his new role as Town Administrator and look forward to working with him.

In February Danielle Sicard was hired as the Town Clerk. Ms. Sicard and her team worked diligently to reorganize the clerk's office and update the Town Code and Bylaws. The new format is user friendly and posted prominently on the town website.

In August we welcomed Lisa Florio as our new Administrative Assistant and congratulate Mary Southworth as she transitioned to her new position as Human Resources Coordinator.

In October, Selectman Dan Murphy resigned his position on the Board of Selectmen. The open position will be filled by a special election on January 20th. We thank Dan for his six plus years of leadership and service to the town.

Easton continued its commitment to support public safety with several new hires in the Police and Fire department. We are honored to receive the SAFER Firefighter Grant that will help the town fund four new fire fighter positions.

The town continued to move forward with large infrastructure projects and completed the sewer connection to Mansfield. The Queset and Five Corners sewer projects are on track and all three projects are expected to drive targeted economic development in these key areas of town. The North Easton Village district continues to make progress in the revitalization of downtown with the award of a \$2.5M MassWorks grant. This grant will help us with the next phase of the downtown improvements.

Avalon Easton began leasing and welcomed new residents to the community. The Avalon project is the largest rental housing community in Easton and significantly helped us move toward achieving our housing goals by offering market rate and affordable units. Avalon mitigation payments also funded a school feasibility study that will help us build or renovate a primary grade school. The Avalon development acted as a catalyst for sewer in the Five Corners corridor and will drive economic opportunity in South Easton.

Easton continues to seek energy savings for the town and the community and entered into the Easton Community Choice Power to bring bulk energy savings to residents.

In an effort to formalize structure and improve efficiency, Town Meeting voted to create a Municipal Finance Department to be led by a finance director/town accountant. This change is important as we continue to modernize and look for ways to reduce risk and maximize efficiency.

In 2016, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts voted to allow recreational marijuana. This brings opportunities and challenges to communities like Easton. Town Meeting voted to enact an 18 month moratorium from retail recreational sales while we wait for the state to finalize regulations. In the meantime, the Selectboard appointed a Marijuana Policy Advisory Committee to follow the state progress and propose recommendations to the Board. The Selectboard will then put forth warrant articles to be voted at Town Meeting May 21, 2018.

In April, Craig Barger was elected to the Board of Selectmen. We welcome Mr. Barger and look forward to the perspective and experience he brings to the Board. We thank outgoing Selectwoman Carol Nestler for her hard work and dedication to the Board.

Easton is a vibrant community rich in culture with great schools, open space, historic treasures and outstanding employees and volunteers that are essential in keeping our town a desirable place to live. The Board would like to express our sincere thanks to all those that dedicate their time and talent as we continue to lead the way in technology and service improvements.

We thank Connor Read, Mary Southworth, Lisa Florio and all our department heads for their leadership, vision and commitment to our town. We couldn't do what we do without your ongoing support. We would also like to thank the employees of the Town of Easton for their hard work, and all the volunteers, both elected and appointed, who serve our community every day. Your service makes our community strong, and we truly appreciate it.

It is an honor and privilege to serve the residents of Easton.

- Dottie Fulginiti, Chair
- Dan Murphy
- Kevin McIntyre
- Craig Barger
- David Mills

2017 Annual Report of the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee's goal is to provide accurate and objective information about financial decisions facing the Town to the citizenry of Easton in a straightforward fashion so the citizens can make informed decisions. The recommendations of the Committee are primarily seen at the Annual Town Meeting, and any Special Town Meetings, but from time to time during the year the Committee will weigh in on timely issues throughout the year.

The Finance Committee is tasked with completing a detailed review and making recommendations on all Town and the School Department budgets, reviewing financial impacts of any and all Town projects, and making recommendations on all Town Meeting warrant articles. Budget review also includes the Town's many off-budget accounts, looking for opportunities to use the accounts when appropriate, in an effort to most efficiently stretch the citizenry's tax dollars.

Finance Committee is made up of 9 members with a usual meeting schedule of the second Wednesday of every month. During the fiscal year budget and Annual Town meeting season of March-May and as needed for Special Town Meetings and other items as they arise, meetings may be needed more often. Throughout the year the Committee is presented with many great project ideas. However, these ideas and the costs associated with each must be weighed against the financial constraints of the Town's budget, not only for today, but for any potential impact that could be felt years down the road. In a perfect world, all plans would get approved; all departments fully staffed, and the Town still have money to set aside for future needs.

In reality, difficult decisions must be made that balance the Town's basic needs (i.e. public safety and education) with new and exciting programs that continue to drive Easton into the future. The Committee sees itself as unbiased overseers of the taxpayer's money, and make recommendations on how and where that money should and could be best spent.

For most budget cycles, the Committee is introduced into the cycle midway through, after the Town Administrator has provided his first preliminary budget. In keeping with a desire to better understand the financial workings of the town, and be better advocates for the Town, the Committee, with the cooperation and assistance of the Town Administrator, the Superintendent of Schools, and all department heads, conducted a review of the budget process at the beginning of the cycle (late summer). The resulting conversations of the Committee resulted in an adoption of 3 tenets by which the Committee will review all budgetary items. 1. Does this replenish reserves? 2. Does this grow revenue? 3. Is it required to maintain or improve upon vital services? The Committee plans to take these tenets with them as we review and prepare for the FY19 budget.

The Finance Committee makes its recommendations known at Town Meeting. To demonstrate how we reach those recommendations, all the Committee's meetings are televised on ECAT. 2016 was the sixth year in a row that the meetings have been televised. The goal of airing the meetings is to show the people how our decisions were reached, as well as ensure an air of transparency over the proceedings. We encourage open debate during our meetings, and ensure that all sides of a given issue are presented before a final vote is taken. Input from the community is always welcome and we encourage the citizens to attend our meetings if they have a concern or question about a financial issue of importance to the Town. We even opened up an informational session designed for new members of the Committee to the public, and were glad to see several citizens attend.

Members of the Committee hold seats on a variety of other committees in the Town throughout the year, including (but not limited to) Budget, Capital Planning and Audit. In 2017, in anticipation of entering into

an MSBA feasibility study for a Center School repair/replacement project, two members of the Committee were selected to serve on the resurrected School Planning Committee. The Committee also attempts to have a member in attendance at every Board of Selectmen's meeting so when matters need discussing at Finance Committee meetings, the Committee will be better prepared.

As elected officials, the Committee is dedicated to serving the citizens of Easton. Part of that dedication is an urging of the Town's boards, committees and departments are more communicative with the Committee on all issues that may come before it. It would be ideal to have information about a potential warrant article known before the warrant was issued. Often times these articles have complexities that need more than just the short window provided between issuance of the warrant and Town Meeting floor. The Committee applauds those groups and individuals that have worked with the Committee in the past, and encourage this open communication to continue.

The Committee would like to thank the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, the Town Accountant, the School Committee and the Superintendent of Schools for their cooperation and continued working relationships. The Committee would also like to acknowledge all of the Town's department heads, who make time for Committee members during budget season to go over their individual budgets and for working with the Committee throughout the year whenever questions arise. The sense of collaboration and cooperation throughout the Town is applauded.

The Committee would like to welcome its newest members, Roberta Verville, Patrick Hellen, and Tom Brussard, as well as thank Stacey Lincoln for her continued diligence and dedication as the Committee's secretary.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Finance Committee

Ben Hampton (co-chair)	Greg Fraser	Roberta Verville
Marc Lamb (co-chair)	Patrick McCarthy	Patrick Hellen
Janice Wolffe	Stephanie Keller	Tom Brussard

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON BOARD OF HEALTH

The Easton Board of Health is required by law to perform many critical duties related to the protection of public health. These include public health control and prevention responsibilities including:

- Disease surveillance
- Promotion of sanitary housing units, recreational facilities, and food establishments
- Elimination of nuisances
- The protection of the environment by regulating and overseeing the proper disposition of waste (sewage and solid waste)

The Board of Health is part of the Department of Health and Community Services. Under the direction of Kristin Kennedy, REHS/RS, the Board of Health is supported by Health Inspectors Mark Taylor, RHES/RS, and Timothy Meyers. The Board is also supported by Kit Minsky, Executive Assistant to Inspectional Services and the Board of Health. In July Ms. Elizabeth DeRosa, the Animal Inspector retired. The newly hired Animal Inspector is Jordan Holbrook.

All members of the Board of Health attended an annual certification seminar provided by the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards, on public health laws and issues.

The Board of Health met an average of twice a month in a public meeting forum. Meetings include the consideration of variance requests from State and Local regulations as well as consideration of emergent Public Health concerns. In 2017, the Board of Health considered the following topics:

- Issues related to Arbovirus- Lyme, EEE, Zika and WNV
- Monitoring of the repairs required by an administrative consent order issued by the State Department of Environmental Protection for the Sewage Treatment Plant at the Easton Manufactured Housing Community
- The potential of Easton hosting a Medical Marijuana cultivation site
- The potential to ban the sale of synthetic cannabinoids

The Board of Health took the following actions to help further the health of its citizens:

- Board of Health Chair Laura Arboleda began serving as the Board of Health representative on the Marijuana Policy Advisory Committee in order to develop options to present to voters at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting to address the legalization of Recreational Marijuana
- In May, Local Upgrade Approvals were moved in-house to department staff as part of revised septic regulations with the goal of streamlining and expediting the issuance of Disposal Septic Construction permits.
- Department staff continued to work in developing EPermitting to support easy online access to information on issued permits and Disposal Septic Construction permits.
- In November, the Board of Health voted to conduct a single monthly meeting.
- Conducted four Flu Immunization clinics at Town Hall, Oliver Ames High School, Special Town meeting and the Council of Aging.

Public health nursing services were provided by contractual agreement with Health Care Options, Inc., an affiliate of Community Visiting Nurse Agency (CVNA) of Attleboro. Ms. Maureen Cardarelli, R.N., the Town's contract nurse, provided the Board and the residents of Easton with excellent service and professional advice throughout the year.

The Board appreciates the cooperation of the various town boards and departments and continues to work closely with the Department of Public Health and the Department of Environmental Protection and other agencies of the Commonwealth.

Respectfully submitted,
EASTON BOARD OF HEALTH
Laura Arboleda, Chairman
Lynne LeBlanc, Member
Elizabeth Reichman, Member

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Department of Revenue regulations now require assessors to review assessments on a yearly basis to see if they meet the statistical criteria contained in the Massachusetts General Laws. Median assessments must be at least 90% of market value and not exceed 110% as determined by analysis of the previous year's sales. Assessments must also meet uniform criteria that show all similar properties are being assessed by the same methodology. The results of analyzing the 2016 valid or "arm's length" sales showed that residential values based on the average single family home increased by 3%. Condos increased by 8% in value and two families 7%.

Prior to setting the tax rate, the assessors are responsible for putting together information to aid the Board of Selectmen in its decision concerning classification. The Selectmen make the decision on whether to have a single or split tax rate.

Real estate overvaluation applications are reviewed by the Board of Assessors. The time frame for filing an overvaluation application is from late December when the actual bill comes out through the following February 1st. A postmark on or before February 1st from the US Post Office is a timely filing. The filing time period is set in the General Laws and late applications cannot be considered. Decisions on all applications are made by the assessors within three months of the filing date. Assessors can only look at the assessed value (not taxes) to determine if abatement is warranted. Decisions of the Board of Assessors can be appealed to the Appellate Tax Board within that Board's filing period.

The office works with the Council on Aging and the Veterans' Agent to alert elderly and veterans to changes in the laws governing statutory exemptions. Assessing staff spend a good deal of time on the phone and in the office helping our homeowners fill out applications.

Motor vehicle excise bill inquiries concerning abatements, place of garaging issues, and overvaluation of the vehicle are handled in this office. Staff is in constant contact with the Registry of Motor Vehicles trying to resolve issues for the taxpayers.

The Community Preservation Act Surcharge is assessed through this office and the Board processes exemptions to this surcharge.

Many reports for other departments and state agencies are generated from the assessors' data base. The report that is most requested is the abutters' list for public hearings.

The assessors' data is on the Internet. The Assessing staff is always working on upgrading the Assessing website to have more information and forms online. Exemptions and motor vehicle information are also on the website.

New septic betterments were added to tax bills.

Senior Workoff staff continue to help with mailings, filings and office coverage for lunch or training.

Our Chief Assessor Robert L Alford II, M.A.A. is serving his second year as President of the Bristol County Assessors Association.

A SUMMARY OF THE RECAPITULATION SHEET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018 IS AS FOLLOWS:

Assessed Value of Real Estate	\$ 3,309,851,700
Assessed Value of Personal Property	\$ 67,371,641
Total Assessed Value of Real & Personal Property	<u>\$ 3,377,223,341</u>

EXPENDITURES:

Appropriations	\$ 88,805,718.50
Cherry Sheet Offsets & Misc. Charges	327,351.00
State & County Charges	858,444.00
Overlay Account	419,597.36

Total Expenditures	\$	90,411,110.86
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ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND AVAILABLE FUNDS:

State Receipts	\$ 13,589,025.00
Local Receipts	7,412,867.00
Enterprise Funds	5,201,633.00
Free Cash/Other Available Funds	7,155,795.50
Community Preservation Funds	2,307,000.00

Total Receipts & Available Funds	\$ 35,666,320.50
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NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION	\$ 54,744,790.36
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$$\text{Tax Rate} = 54,744,790.36 / 3,377,223,341 \times 1000 = \$16.21$$

The assessment date for fiscal year 2018 values is January 1, 2017. The Town now has 5,651 single-family homes, 1424 condominiums, 158 two-family homes and 22 three-family homes. The average single family value for fiscal year 2018 is \$ 429,700. New Growth was \$1,001,211.

We would like to thank Ellen Weene, Maureen Call and Robert Alford II for all their hard work. We would like to wish Maureen Call good luck with her retirement and wish to welcome Jennifer Cantalupo. Thank you Maureen for the more than 9 years of service.

Significant Dates for Taxpayers and Citizens regarding the Assessors' Office:

January 1st — Property Tax Assessment Date.

June 30th Property Tax Assessment Date for building permits. The Town adopted Chapter 653 of the MA. General Laws at the Special Town Meeting in January, 2004. This changed the date from January 1st to June 30th for succeeding fiscal years.

February 1st Payment of third quarterly tax bill and deadline for accepting appeals. The only time taxpayers can appeal assessments due to overvaluation or disproportionate assessment is from the time the actual bill is mailed in December through February 1st (or the next work day if February 1st falls on a weekend.)

March 1st Date for submission of Forms of List. This is a listing of all business personal property and must be filed every year by anyone doing business in Town.

April 1st Exemption applications for elderly (over 65), blind persons, and disabled veterans with a rating from the VA and Community Preservation Act are due. Applications are mailed in August to anyone qualifying in the previous year. Contact the office for exemption forms.

May 1 st	Payment of fourth quarter tax bill.
August 1 st	Payment of the 1 st preliminary tax bill. Preliminary bills are based on at least one quarter of the taxes from the previous fiscal year. If significant changes have taken place such as subdivision of land or new construction taxes will be estimated accordingly. New construction will be based on whatever is complete on the previous June 30 th .
November 1 st	Payment of the 2 nd preliminary tax bill.
December	Setting of the tax rate and mailing of the third quarter bill that is the actual tax bill for the current fiscal year.

Telephone number for questions or information: 508-230-0520

SCOTT TIMULTY Chairman
MICHAEL MCKENNA Vice-Chairman
RAYMEN MORRELL Clerk

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The School Committee is pleased to submit the following report to the citizens of Easton.

In his third year with the district, Superintendent Dr. Andrew Keough, alongside Assistant Superintendent Dr. Lisha Cabral, continued to develop and implement the strategies necessary to meet the District Goals defined in the Strategic Plan: Family and Community Engagement, Ensuring the Social and Emotional and Physical Wellbeing of All Easton Students Grades Pk-12, Resource Efficiency and Attainment and Advancing Student Achievement. To this end, 2017 has been a busy and successful year as the Easton Public Schools strive to serve the youngest citizens of Easton to the best of our abilities.

The District experienced several significant administrative changes during 2017. In January, Dr. Keough submitted his letter of resignation to the School Committee to be effective July 1, 2017. Dr. Keough informed the Committee that he had accepted a position as Superintendent of Schools for the Dover – Sherborn School District. While the Committee is saddened by the loss of Dr. Keough, we wish him the best in his new position. Under the direction of School Committee Chair Laurie Han, a search committee was formed comprised of administrators, teachers and parents to determine how to proceed with a superintendent search. The members of the search committee reviewed the District Action Plan and Strategic Goals for 2016-2018, and several other sources to develop a suggested candidate profile for the Superintendent of Easton Public Schools. The search committee also reviewed the most recent superintendent searches in other districts and the current open searches and reported their findings to the School Committee. School Committee members discussed the candidate profile with district administrators. There was a consensus among the members of the search committee and the administrators that Dr. Cabral fit the suggested candidate profile and that she was the best choice for the role. The School Committee unanimously voted to appoint Dr. Cabral as the next Superintendent of Easton Public Schools. Once Dr. Cabral was appointed, the next step was to begin a search for a new Assistant Superintendent of Schools. Following the same model, a committee was established comprised of parents, community members, teachers, administrators and a representative from the School Committee. After reviewing over 90 applications, four finalists were chosen by the search committee. The School Committee and Dr. Cabral interviewed the finalists and two candidates were chosen to move forward in the process. After further interviews, Dr. Cabral recommended that Crissy Pruitt be hired as the Assistant Superintendent of the Easton Public Schools. The School Committee voted to approve Dr. Cabral's recommendation.

In addition, Deborah Hammett, principal of the Richardson Olmsted School resigned in October. Fortunately, the District has many talented current and retired administrators who are willing to take on new roles to ensure our children continue to excel. Chris Getchell, principal of Parkview Elementary School was appointed interim principal of Richardson Olmsted School for the remainder of the school year. John Giuggio, retired principal of Easton Middle School, was appointed interim principal of Parkview Elementary School for the remainder of the school year. Our expectation is that we will proceed over the next year to fill these roles on a permanent basis.

During the academic year of 2016-2017, the School Committee had one change in committee membership: Michelle Durrance was elected to the Committee in the spring, replacing Laurie Han. Ms. Durrance, an experienced educator, has been an excellent addition to the Committee. The remainder of the Committee is unchanged: Nancy DeLuca, Jane Martin, Caroline O'Neill and Jacqueline Weisman. Following the election the Committee was reorganized and Jacqueline Weisman was voted Chair of the Committee and Nancy DeLuca was voted Vice Chair of the Committee.

A *Statement of Interest* was submitted in 2016 to the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA") for assistance in new school construction to address our aging Pk-2 buildings. As the 2014 facility audit by Dore & Whittier Inc. noted, our lower elementary buildings are very much in need of replacement or significant renovation. The MSBA declined to consider the submissions for Parkview Elementary School and Moreau Hall Elementary School. However, in the spring of 2017, Easton was invited into the eligibility phase for Center School. The eligibility period commenced on April 3, 2017. This date triggered a 270-day period in which the Town of Easton and the Easton Public Schools must fulfill the requirements set forth by the MSBA. A School Planning committee was established comprised of

representatives from the School Committee, Board of Selectman and Finance Committee, community members, parents, the principal of Center School, the Superintendent of Schools, the Director of School Operations, the School Business Manager, the Town Administrator and the Director of the DPW. A crucial step in moving the project forward was taken at the Special Town Meeting in November. The Town voted to transfer the \$1,000,000 mitigation payment made to the Town by Avalon Bay to be used to fund the feasibility study for the Center School project. Following this vote, the MSBA invited the Town into the Feasibility and Schematic Design phase. In addition, the MSBA has provided a 52.26% reimbursement calculation. This initial reimbursement rate applies only to the eligible expenses incurred during this phase of the project. The School Planning Committee can now move forward to hire a Project Manager and Project Designer to guide the Feasibility and Schematic Design process. On average, this work takes 18 to 20 months to complete. We expect to reach out to educators, parents, and interested citizens during this process to help determine the best site and building design option to meet the educational needs of our youngest learners (Pk through 2).

Many thanks are given for the donations the District received this year: FEEE donated \$20,000 to purchase three chromebook carts each containing 30 much needed devices; Shaw's Supermarket donated \$1,000; and parents, who wish to remain anonymous, donated \$5,000 to Moreau Hall Elementary School to be used for the makerspace in the library and for the purchase of chromebooks. In addition, Wings of Hope donated \$2,250 to be used for the purpose of developing, interpreting and reporting on the next Youth Behavior Survey for the Easton Middle School and Oliver Ames High School students. The Youth Behavior Survey was last conducted in 2015. The data obtained is used to identify those areas in which further interventions and education are needed to keep our students safe.

In an effort to promote water safety and responsibility, the District has partnered with the YMCA to pilot a six-week program where second grade students are given swimming lifesaving lessons at the Easton YMCA free of charge. This pilot program began with a single second grade classroom from Center School and will be offered to all second graders. Parent volunteers will be in the locker rooms with the students and teachers will attend the trip. The program will offer structured water awareness and safety lessons and parents will receive progress reports on their child.

The budget continues to be a significant challenge. The \$39,979,017 operating budget was a mere 2.71% increase over the previous year's budget. Due to the diligence and foresight of our administrators we began to realize savings in special education out-of-district placement costs. These savings along with lower natural gas rates and personnel changes, allowed us to make some crucial additions. Most notably, we added a teacher and paraprofessional for the therapeutic learning center program at OA and an adjustment counselor for the Pk-2 schools. Easton continues to lag in per-pupil spending, however, ranking in the bottom nine percent of public school districts in Massachusetts (Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 2016). This fall we learned that Easton would no longer be eligible for an entitlement grant that was used to pay for professional development for our educators. We also learned that the State lowered the reimbursement rate for out-of-district special education placement costs.

In order to lessen the financial impact of unanticipated special education costs, the District submitted a Warrant Article at the Annual Town Meeting to allow for the establishment of a Special Education Reserve Fund. The Reserve Fund is to be utilized to pay for unanticipated or unbudgeted special education costs, out-of-district special education tuition and transportation. The Town approved an appropriation of \$200,000 from savings generated by the school district.

While the District undergoes a series of audits annually, this year three additional audits were undertaken, all of which could have an impact on our budget: The Coordinated Program of Review, an Operational Audit and a human resources audit. The Coordinated Program of Review ("CPR") is conducted by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education ("DESE") every six years. The CPR addresses Special Education, Civil Rights and English Language Learners. In making its determination DESE reviewed school procedures and individual student records, interviewed administrators, teachers, and paraprofessionals, surveyed parents and observed instructional spaces. DESE issued a report that outlines areas in which the District is not compliant with the law. The District must propose corrective action that is

subject to DESE approval and then has one year to implement the corrective action. DESE found several areas in each category in which the District is out of compliance. While most issues raised can be corrected with more training, policy updates or administrative action, there are a couple of areas that could have an impact on our budget. We have been cited for not having adequate space in Center School for occupational and physical therapy and in Parkview Elementary and Center Schools for English Language Learner instructional space. As noted above, these are corrective actions that must be addressed within a year of the issuance of the report. Additional space is non-existent in both schools, so the administration is working closely with DESE to come up with a plan to address these issues.

An Operational Audit was conducted of the Town of Easton and the Easton Public Schools by the Abrahams Group, an independent consulting group specializing in governmental financial, operational and performance management. The Abrahams Group looked at staffing, compensation, benefits, fees, transportation, food service, professional development, information technology and facilities. The Abrahams Group compared the results to other communities identified as similar based on economic, demographic and geographic metrics and made a series of financial and management recommendations. We appreciate the insight provided and continue to discuss the recommendations.

The Town of Easton applied for and received from the State of Massachusetts, a Commonwealth Community Compact Award to evaluate potential collaborate efficiencies between the Town and the schools. To perform this audit, the Town engaged the Collins Center for Public Management. The Collins Center conducted an organizational review of human resources with the purpose of making recommendations for efficiencies and improvement. The Collins Center noted that the schools do not have a designated human resource professional but rather human resource responsibilities are dispersed amongst many departments and positions. According to the Collins Center, this is not only inefficient, but in light of the increase in compliance and documentation requirements, it is unwise from a liability perspective. The Collins Center recommended the schools create a position for a HR Coordinator. Unfortunately, our budget does not allow for the creation of this additional position.

We continue to strive to provide our students with academic opportunities despite our budgetary constraints. This year our students self-funded travel to the Galapagos Islands, Spain, Quebec City, England and Ireland. We thank Mr. Paul, Mr. Carroll and our teachers for providing these incredible opportunities for our kids.

A new math program, Bridges, was introduced in to the K-5 classes based on the unanimous recommendation of the Math Committee and was paid for by savings generated by the School Department. Bridges is based on the common core standards and is expected provide a rigorous program to prepare our students for middle school.

As a result of capital funds received from the Town, we were able to make several important security upgrades in our schools including additional security devices, a new visitor management system, and evacuation chairs for students who need extra assistance.

This year grades 3-8 took the next generation MCAS in math and ELA. The next generation MCAS is an updated version of the 20-year old assessment. The new assessment focuses on students' critical thinking abilities, application of knowledge and ability to make connections between reading and writing. The new assessment should give a clearer signal of readiness for the next grade level and is given on a computer. This is considered the District's benchmark year for the new assessment and therefore will be a resource for identifying strengths and weaknesses in our curriculum. There will be a transition to the next generation assessment over the next several years. Our students continue to perform above the State average on the legacy MCAS.

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) initiatives continue as we strive to foster an interest in our students in those disciplines that will prepare them for the jobs of the future. Across all grades, in the classroom, in clubs and in the community STEAM opportunities continue. Our annual STEAM Family Night at Richardson Olmsted School was a big success. At Easton Middle School, students explored future careers at the "Pathways to Your Future" program. The OA Iron Tigers continue

to bring home awards. The Tigers were regional finalists at the competitions at Bryant University and Bridgewater-Raynham High School and won the Chairman's Award at the Bridgewater-Raynham competition.

Easton Athletics, under Athletic Director Bill Matthews, continues to be a vital part of the Easton Public School system. Sixty-six percent of students in grades 9 through 12 participated in at least one sports activity. The OA boys golf team won the Division 2 South Sectional Title and the OA boys soccer team won the Division 2 South Sectional Title. In recognition for her outstanding coaching ability, Elaine Clement Holbrook, the OA girls' basketball coach was chosen to coach high school students for the McDonalds All American Game that took place in Chicago.

The arts continue to shine. A record-breaking 32 pieces of art by 16 OA students were recognized and awarded in the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers Scholastic Art Competition including four gold key winners whose works will go on to compete at the national level. In addition, 7 OA students received recognition at the Congressional Art Competition. The OA Jazz Band received a silver medal at the Massachusetts Association for Jazz Education competition, the OA Marching Band won the State championship at the US Bands Competition, and the OA Chamber Orchestra received a silver rating at MICCA (Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors). The Show Choir was awarded two silver medals and two gold medals in competitions throughout the state.

We are happy to report that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees chose our own Caroline O'Neill to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award. The award was presented at the annual MASC conference.

This year, the following teachers have obtained professional status, having completed their third year of teaching in Easton Public Schools with much success: Colleen Clark, Gretchen Eldridge, Daniel Fitzgerald, Rebecca Gove, Kareena Griffin, Bryan Hafferty, Stefania Hynes, Stacey Kelleher, Andrea Kolev, Christopher Koutros, Heather Lewis, Susan Mancuso, Michelle Marro, Amanda Martens, Kimberly Masinda, Alexa Murray, Jennifer Pratt, Deborah Prisco, Maura Richards, Karen Rodgers, Richard Smith, Alexandra Van Buren, Helen van Riel, and Andrew White. The District is grateful to count so many talented teachers as part of our community.

In addition to outstanding teachers, Easton is fortunate to have outstanding administrators. One such administrator, Chris Getchell, former principal of Parkview Elementary School and acting principal of Richardson Olmsted School was named the winner of the Thomas C. Passios Outstanding Principal Award. Mr. Getchell represented Massachusetts in the National Distinguished Principal Program.

This year saw the retirements of several teachers and staff including: Paula Carroll, Grade 1 Teacher; Charlene Dalrymple, Music Teacher; Mary Davenport, Clerical Aide; Anne Drury, Social Studies Teacher; Linda Flaherty, Paraprofessional; Joanne Nolan, Social Studies Teacher; Linda Rabinowitz, Paraprofessional; Karyn Smith, Secretary; Kathleen Weeks, Math Teacher and Beth Young, Science Teacher. We thank these dedicated members of our school community for their years of service and wish them well with their future plans. With much regret, we report the passing of Paul DeLuca, Cathi Harrington-Droukas, Michael Healey and Diane Hight.

The School Department Administration Offices are located at 50 Oliver Street, North Easton. The main phone number is 508-230-3200. The District website is www.easton.k12.ma.us. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

On behalf of all the students in the District, we thank the townspeople of Easton for their support and look forward to serving our children together.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacqueline Weisman, Chair
Nancy DeLuca, Vice Chair
Caroline O'Neill
Jane Martin
Michelle Durrance

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Introduction

As the Superintendent of the Easton Public Schools, it is an honor to submit this Annual Report for the 2017 calendar year. The District is proud of its many accomplishments, particularly toward attaining the goals outlined in the District Strategic Plan. The Plan, which can be viewed via the Easton Public Schools website (<http://www.easton.k12.ma.us>), contains the vision, theory of action, core values, strategic objectives, and strategic priorities of the school system. It is a structured document that provides each and every stakeholder in the district with a roadmap to the future of the schools. It is currently being updated for a new Plan cycle to begin in the fall of 2018.

The following is a status report and compilation of the key events taking place within the Easton Public Schools over the course of 2017. As in previous years, it is not intended to be an all-inclusive listing of the many accomplishments of the school system; rather it is a sampling of achievements this year. In each section, you will see the reflection of and connection to the district's Core Values and Strategic Objectives which are listed below.

Core Values:

Academic Excellence and Equity for All
Cooperative and Caring Relationships
Commitment to Community
Respecting and Valuing Diversity

Strategic Objectives:

Advancing Student Achievement
Ensuring the Social, Emotional, and Physical Wellbeing of All
Resource Efficiency and Attainment
Family and Community Engagement

Statistical and Budget Information

On October 1, 2017 there were 3,722 students enrolled in EPS. Of that population, 1,859 were male and 1,863 were female. Students with special needs represented 16.9%, students who reported having a language other than English as their native language made up 4.7%, and 1.32% were identified as English Language Learners (ELL). Of Oliver Ames graduates in 2017, 44% planned to attend private colleges/universities, 43% state colleges/universities, and 9% 2-year state college programs, while 2% planned to work, 1% planned to join the military, and 1% remained uncertain.

Two different state assessments were administered to students in grades 3-12 through the Commonwealth. Students in grade 10 participated in the Legacy MCAS assessment in all three subject areas. Students in grade 5 and grade 8 participated in the Legacy MCAS for Science. Students in grades 3-8 participated in Next Generation MCAS in English Language Arts and Math. Their achievements are noted below.

Legacy MCAS - Grade 10

2017	% Advanced		% Proficient		% Needs Improvement		% Warning	
	Easton	State	Easton	State	Easton	State	Easton	State
English Language Arts	56	47	39	44	3	6	2	3
Math	62	53	26	26	8	14	5	8
Science	21	32	52	42	24	21	3	5

Legacy MCAS - Grade 5 and Grade 8

2017	% Advanced		% Proficient		% Needs Improvement		% Warning	
	Easton	State	Easton	State	Easton	State	Easton	State
Science- Grade 5	23	17	36	29	35	39	6	15
Science- Grade 8	2	3	56	37	36	40	7	20

Next Generation MCAS - Grade 3 through Grade 8

2017	% Exceeding Expectations		% Meeting Expectations		% Partially Meeting Expectations		% Not Meeting Expectations	
	Easton	State	Easton	State	Easton	State	Easton	State
English Language Arts	7	7	55	42	33	41	4	10
Math	11	8	56	40	29	41	4	12

Professional Development

Professional educators rely on continual training to stay current in their practice. Easton Public Schools encourages this mindset and has placed great emphasis on ensuring that this work remains a top priority. It is important to provide time to collaborate with colleagues within the district as well as outside the district to remain abreast of the latest research and best practices within education. In fact, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education mandate evidence of high-quality professional development for all educators.

In the 2017-2018 school year, the Easton Public Schools had two extremely successful full day professional development days. The first day focused on Instructional Technology and was entitled “Dive Into Tech.” The keynote was delivered by the Director of Instructional Technology and Curriculum. There were breakout sessions presented by teacher leaders, which provided a diverse menu of options to best meet the needs of all educators. The second professional development day was focused on Social/Emotional Learning. This topic was vetted through the staff as there have been rising needs throughout all schools. Jessica Minahan (BCBA and Co-Author of *The Behavior Code*) provided the keynote focusing on strategies to help students with anxiety and other social/emotional needs. The day continued with breakout sessions on various topics including ADHD in the classroom, Responsive Classroom strategies, Motivating the Unmotivated, as well as other research-based strategies.

The EPS internal professional development program, Easton University, is in its fifth year of implementation. Course offerings are published four times a year for all staff. This program provides graduate level courses, workshops, seminars, book studies, film screenings, and more that allow teachers and other staff to work collaboratively and primarily within the district to improve their understandings, share their best practices, and hone their craft. Each offering is designed to align with the goals identified in the District and individual School Improvement Plans. They are convenient for staff, less expensive than individual, off-campus sessions, and free to all EPS personnel.

Along with Easton University, Easton Community University was offered for the third year. This program provides educational opportunities for parents and community members on topics that range from improving financial management to understanding Google to strategies for setting limits on children’s screen time and more. It is important to the district that it provides quality opportunities for community partners. This is reflected under the goal of Family and Community Engagement in the District Strategic Plan.

EPS continues to find importance in using the “train the trainer” model. This model is used to build capacity and knowledge within our own staff who then educate their peers through replication of what was learned. This model also allows the district to then have on-staff instructors available for multiple trainings over time. Having the instructor in-district also allows for a higher quality implementation as well as built-in supports should any staff member have difficulty with implementation or require further support. This form of training provides lasting opportunities for learning and growth at a far more affordable cost to the district.

Facilities

The following are some of the school projects that occurred over the past year:

- Glycol/Anti-Freeze was installed in the heating system to prevent freeze-ups at RO

- A number of classroom uni-vents have been reinsulated at RO
- Classrooms and common areas at RO were painted during the summer
- Several classrooms had new carpets installed at RO
- New lights were installed at Muscato Stadium
- The Nixon Gym floor at OA was sanded, refinished, and relined with a new logo
- Several upgrades were made to the sound and lighting systems in the OA Performing Arts Center and EMS auditorium
- New ductless AC units were installed in the library at EMS
- New ductless AC units were installed in the Simmons Lecture Hall at OA
- New aluminum bleachers were purchased for the athletic fields
- New parapet ladders were installed on the OA roof
- Fire suppression systems were tested and repaired at all schools
- Preventive maintenance was conducted on all school elevators and lifts
- Sprinkler/well system for the athletic fields was repaired
- Integrated Pest Management Plans were updated and schools are inspected on a monthly basis
- Annual Inspection and repairs of school boilers and generators were completed
- Preventative maintenance on the energy management systems at each school were performed
- All kitchen hoods were inspected and cleaned
- Kitchen appliances were inspected and repaired, as needed
- Versatran, a new transportation routing software system, was implemented to assign bus routes for the start of the school year
- Zonar, a GPS system for buses was first used

Special Services

The Special Services Department oversees the provision of special education for approximately 650 students aged 3-21 and 504 Accommodation Plans for approximately 190 students. The district is committed to providing a free, appropriate, public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment to eligible students. Federal law (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 require that, to the maximum extent possible, students with disabilities are educated with non-disabled peers and have equal access to activities and programs. The goal of special education is to ensure that specific, targeted interventions that are directly related to the child's disability are provided so that students can access the curriculum and make effective progress toward IEP goals.

Given the range of disabilities, it is important to improve and develop programs that will effectively meet the needs of eligible students, minimize the impact of their disability, and educate students in their community. The current Special Education district-wide programs include the Foundations Program (grades PK-12+), the Language Based Program (grades 3-8), the Therapeutic Learning Center (grades K-5 and 9-12), and the Developmental/Life Skills Program (grades 6-12+). The district goal is to expand the Therapeutic Learning Center to grades 6-8 for the 2018-19 school year, so that programming is consistent throughout the district. Additionally, the Developmental Skills Program is planned at the K-2 level for the 2018-19 school year to better serve students who are currently in the district.

The development of programs is also aligned with the District's Vision, Core Values, and Strategic Objectives. The proposed budget reflects the allocation of resources that ensure building capacity within the district to effectively serve students with disabilities.

The Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) has actively worked with the district to provide workshops and support to parents who have children with disabilities. SEPAC has also sponsored Ability Awareness days at the grades PK-2 level and the grades 3-5 level to educate students and staff about a range of disabilities. This program has been a tremendous success. In addition, through the district's partnership with the Easton Branch of the YMCA, students are able to participate in the 100% inclusive Y Ability programs. These physical activities are designed with every child in mind, and they provide opportunities for each student, regardless of disability, to enjoy the programs and successfully interact with their peers. The goal for the district is to provide complete inclusivity for all children.

The remainder of the goals in the Special Services Department include:

- continue to analyze use of allocated funds to ensure effective and efficient use of resources
- continue program development to better meet the academic, social, emotional, and physical needs of students with disabilities and to plan for vertical articulation of programs
- clarify processes and procedures relative to Special Education laws and regulations
- provide effective staff training and development

Center, Moreau Hall, and Parkview Schools (grades PK-2)

In the spirit of equity and collaboration, the three primary schools of Easton have a shared School Improvement Plan. Common goals and action plans promote the pillars of the school district's strategic plan and include Academic Excellence for All, Social and Emotional Health, Resource Efficiency, and Family and Community Engagement.

As part of the collaboration for academic excellence for all students, Center School, Moreau Hall, and Parkview have adopted and implemented a new math program, *Bridges*. Classroom teachers and support staff received *Bridges* instructional materials prior to the start of the school year and participated in program training in the fall. The Curriculum Leaders continue to work on facilitating curriculum unit writing and guiding teachers through the implementation process with *Bridges* as a main resource for math instruction.

The primary schools also work collaboratively to teach children how to work together, solve problems together and to communicate needs respectfully and confidently. Due to the increased social/emotional needs of students, an adjustment counselor was added to the PK-2 staff. The adjustment counselors work in each building to support students' development of coping skills and strategies to function successfully in the school setting. Students participate in "Lunch Bunch," social skills groups, and whole class social competency lessons. Adjustment counselors are available to support individual students struggling to regulate their emotions during the school day. They are a valuable resource for parents seeking guidance on how to support their children and serve as a liaison connecting families to appropriate community resources. In order for each student to perform to their greatest potential, they must be fully ready to learn.

Children ages 3 - 8 also need to channel curiosity and create. All three schools have a shared theme this year of "Just Imagine..." Through this shared theme, students, staff, and families have more opportunities to be creative inside and outside of the classroom. Students and staff are encouraged to take healthy risks and climb into higher levels of thinking by extending beyond comprehension, understanding, and application, into new ideas and innovation. Each school has created a "Makerspace" in its library. This is a shared space dedicated to promoting design and creativity through engineering and hands-on play. This space is utilized during library time as well as by classroom teachers.

Since publishing and community sharing are important components of education, all students have the opportunity to participate in STEAM and Literacy Nights with their families as well as display their creativity as part of performing and visual arts projects throughout the year.

Through a partnership with the YMCA, every second grader in the district will participate in the Swim Wise Program to teach water safety. This collaboration allows for a structured and highly organized series of lifesaving skills that are developmentally appropriate and professionally supervised. This is in an effort to create a “drown-proof” Easton and has been successful in engaging students as well as providing opportunities for practical application of Massachusetts Physical Education Standards and critical lifesaving skills.

Center School artists participated in the “Pinwheels for Peace” in September. Art teacher Mrs. Raub piloted a cardboard art challenge in February and the annual art show was held on May 23rd. Moreau Hall artists participated in “Dot Day” in September and the annual Moreau Hall Art Show was held on October 27th. Parkview School has an ongoing online art gallery in lieu of an art show. Elementary art students in all three schools participated in the Square 1 art fundraiser.

During the year, children perform in the Veterans’ Day and Memorial Day programs as well as the Holiday Sing-along. At the end of each school year, second graders perform in a concert at each school.

Students in all three early elementary schools participated in the American Heart Association’s “Jump for Heart.” Each school also had students participate in the PMC Kids Ride. Center School piloted the Swim Wise Program in partnership with the Old Colony YMCA. The pilot program was a huge success and was launched at the start of the 2017-2018 school year to provide ALL grade two students in Easton with this opportunity.

Richardson Olmsted School (grades 3-5)

After 25 years, the Richardson Olmsted School (RO) stands proudly and fully united as one school. The first of these transitions was the implementation of non-geographical placement. The administration then shifted from two different principals to one principal and one assistant principal. Over the summer of 2017, the final transition took place as 18 classrooms were physically moved so that all of third grade would be together in the Richardson wing, all of fourth grade would be together in the Olmsted wing, and fifth grade would be split evenly on both sides. This provides an equitable experience for all students while facilitating easier collaboration among teachers of the same grade.

RO has added two new special education programs in order to better serve students with cognitive or emotional challenges and adopted entirely new special education administrative and inclusion structures. Interventionists and coaches in math and ELA work with classroom teachers and special educators to utilize a suite of new assessments to help teachers track individual student progress toward learning standards and intervene with small group instruction when the data shows it is warranted. Along with grades K-2, grades 3-5 also implemented a new math program, *Bridges*, and are in the process of rewriting the entire curriculum following the principles of Understanding by Design. An emphasis has also been put on technology integration, and significant improvements have been made to provide access for all learners.

Several students were recognized for their participation in the Easton Water Department’s 31st Annual “Drinking Water Week” Poster Contest. A total of 24 students received 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and honorable mention awards for their original posters. The Richardson Olmsted annual art show was held on June 1st, and all students participated in the Square 1 art fundraiser.

All students in Grade five are receiving instruction in Chorus, Band or Orchestra ensemble. These groups present two concerts per year. Grade four students in Band and Orchestra join the fifth graders in the Spring Concert in June. During the year, children also perform in the Veterans’ Day and Memorial Day programs as well as the Holiday Sing-along.

Students took part in the school-wide fundraiser called the “Boosterthon Fun Run.” This fundraiser was sponsored by the PTA and focused on character education and fitness-based fun. RO students also raised funds for the American Heart Association’s “Hoops for Heart” program.

Easton Middle School

The Easton Middle School recognizes the unique needs of middle school students, while providing a safe and respectful learning environment that inspires students to "Make Their Mark." This year, EMS continued to expand exciting STEAM opportunities for students, including the opportunity to purchase a classroom set of Google Expeditions and Virtual Reality viewers. Additionally, the successful *Pathways to the Future* program was held for the second year. This education and career exhibition for students involved more than 50 presenters from the science, technology, and engineering career fields.

EMS also opened the "Think Tank." This newly renovated computer lab is a student-centered, flexible learning space that is being used by teachers and students. All of the furniture is mobile which enables students to easily work together in groups. There are six televisions which act as large monitors, so that students can project what they are working on for their group to see. The "Think Tank" also has an enormous touch-screen interactive flat screen. There is also another area with floor to ceiling whiteboard paint for teachers and students to display their work. For students who want to use film to express their learning, iPad Minis and tripods are available. The "Think Tank" is an innovative space that fosters creativity, collaboration, communication, and critical thinking. This amazing new area was made possible by a generous parent donation.

Easton Middle School was able to provide a late bus this year. This critical support allows students to participate in the many different after-school opportunities and enrichment clubs at the school that include sports, Student Council, Art Club, Book Club, Foreign Language Club, Jazz Band, Show Choir Image, Chamber Orchestra, Friendship Club, Earth Squad (Recycling Club), Video Club, and School on Wheels Club, to name a few.

Students' sense of community is cultivated by providing team-based community service project opportunities. Each of the school's 18 student teams continue to take on a variety of projects, partnering each year with community groups such as the Department of Children and Families, the Council on Aging, Garden Club, The Easton Children's Museum, the Recreation Department, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and School on Wheels, as well as the elementary schools and other Town departments. The first ever Haunted Hallways Halloween event was not only a huge success, but also a unique experience for all ages in the community to come together.

As part of the School Improvement Plan, a Community Service Award has been created. This award recognizes a student who makes an outstanding contribution, whether to the school community or to the world, in the spirit of community service. Serena Serhan was recognized with the 2017 "Make Your Mark" Community Service Award for her efforts to raise awareness for the Global Smiles Foundation.

Students were also recognized in 2017 through the EMS "*Student of the Month*," program. A total of 72 students "Made Their Mark" of excellence and showed they embody the EMS core values. This special honor is given monthly to a boy and girl from each team. The school also ranked in the top 15% of middle schools in the state for achievement on the MCAS. The National Junior Honor Society welcomed 71 new members into the organization, and these students undertook a number of individualized community service projects. EMS continues to seek new ways to encourage student success and honor their contributions to the community.

Easton Middle School is now in its second year utilizing Naviance, which brings the Guidance Department closer to their goal of a streamlined grades 6-12 college and career curriculum. With the addition of another guidance counselor at EMS, the department has been able to look further at curriculum development and continues to work on a new school-wide schedule.

The middle school staff will be launching a March College Madness Week in an effort to encourage students to start investigating and exploring colleges at a younger age. The goal is to get students to start setting goals and discover the many possibilities colleges can offer. College pennants will decorate the halls and the counselors have received materials from college admission representatives to supplement their classroom presentations.

In local arts opportunities, grade six students participated in the International Lions' Club Peace Poster Contest and three students received 1st, 2nd and 3rd placements. The art hallway is an on-going art gallery space throughout the year.

All music ensembles are larger than last year. Over 60% of the students in grades 6-8 participate in a music performance ensemble. These students continue to hone their craft and have the opportunity to provide many school and public performances throughout the year.

Selected EMS students and teachers piloted new technology in physical education. Each school received one set of 30 Polar Heart Rate Monitors to guide the teaching of important physical education standards. The concepts learned include maximum heart rate and target heart rate. The sensors give students immediate feedback and the program tracks student data.

Oliver Ames High School

Art Department

Oliver Ames (OA) art students participated in the annual Alliance for Young Artists and Writers Scholastic Art Competition where 32 pieces by 16 students were recognized regionally and awarded in the competition with 4 gold keys, 11 silver keys, and 17 honorable mentions. This is the largest number of recognitions the department has received to date, breaking the prior record of 22 recognitions. These awards are the highest honor received by high school artists in the state of Massachusetts. Regional Gold key works compete at the national level. Over 330,000 works of art were submitted, and less than 1% was recognized nationally. Oliver Ames received two national medals at Carnegie Hall in NYC in 2017.

The art department also had a record-breaking year in the 18th Annual Congressional Art Competition for the 4th District. This includes the highest honor of Best in Show. This work is displayed in the Capitol building in Washington D.C. for one year. OA art students were additionally awarded 1st runner up to Best in Show, 2nd runner up to Best in Show, 1st and 2nd place in the painting category and 1st and 3rd place in the drawing category.

OA was also one of 3,000 high schools selected to participate in the national Vans Custom Culture Shoe Design Competition. Students placed at several stages, including top 50 nationally, top 10 in the Northeast Region and 1st in New England.

In local arts opportunities, four students placed in the Easton Historical Society's Beauty of Easton Photography competition. Additionally, student artists participated in the Legacy Art Show at the Ames Estate placing 1st, 2nd and Honorable Mention. A selection of student work from Art levels 2, 3 and 4 was exhibited at the Artists Studio and Gallery at Patriot Place in Foxboro.

As an alumnus of the art education program at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Ms. Shea and a selection of OA advanced artists were invited to exhibit at Herter Gallery. The exhibition included artwork by alumni and their PK-12 students to showcase the strength of Visual Arts teachers and their outstanding programs in public schools.

The annual OA Art Show entitled "Art is everywhere, on Earth and in your heart" was held on May 5th and showcased works from art students in the entire OA art department including work from the newly piloted course, Graphic Design. Students studied the history of graphic design, typography, and Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. The art department annual book awards went to Melina Cetrangolo, Elizabeth Hausman, Samantha Fundinger, Anna Nelson, and Olivia Powers.

Athletic Department

Oliver Ames offered 29 varsity sports in 2017. Two-thirds of the student population participated in at least one athletic activity; a participation level recognized as outstanding. Participation across all three seasons

totalled 1,191 active team members. A total of 41% of OA student athletes participated in more than one sport.

Ten out of a possible 16 teams qualified for post season competition. Wrestling won 19 matches during the season, the highest ever achieved by the team. Don Byron, head boys basketball coach, achieved his 400th Massachusetts high school basketball win, placing him among an elite group of accomplished coaches.

The OA boys' lacrosse team was recognized as the MIAA statewide sportsmanship winner for boys' lacrosse. Boys track was also recognized for sportsmanship by the League.

The golf team went undefeated for the 3rd straight season and has compiled a 77-1 record over the past five years. They have been Hockomock Divisional Champions for six straight years, won the Sectional Championship four times in six years, and finished in the top ten in the State Tournament in five of the past six years. Ryan Riley, head golf coach, was also named Boston Globe Coach of the Year.

Boys' soccer captured the Hockomock Kelly Rex Division title, won the South Sectional Tournament, and was defeated in the State Championship game by Concord-Carlisle in double overtime.

Eighty-four student athletes were named Hockomock League All Stars or Honorable Mention. Nathaniel Cardoza was named League MVP, All State, All Region and All American in boys' soccer.

Business and Technology Department

DECA had another successful competition year with 50 students qualifying for state competition and 11 students qualifying for international competition in Anaheim, California. Seniors Hannah Bloomwald and Abby Silverleib received top 20 honors for their Financial Literacy Promotion Project. Andrew Morgan, also an international DECA qualifier, received the Business Department Book Award at Senior Night.

In an effort to give students more experiential learning opportunities, the department added an Internship class for the 2017-2018 school year. Some highlights of the first semester have been career exploration, resume creation, and mock interviewing. During the second semester, students will work with a mentor in their chosen career field.

Use of technology in the classroom was enhanced through the addition of the Adobe Creative Cloud Software Suite to augment instruction in both Web Design and Media classes. Growing student interest in Media allowed for the addition of one more Media I class and the adoption of a Video Club that meets twice a month after school.

English Department

Sarina Scolaro received the Charlene Howarth Award and Caroline Ferguson, Andrea Kline, Megan Poirier, and Sophia Sarro won the English Department Book Award. A new English Department award was given in 2017. The Erica Fuld and Jesse Hanawalt Award was presented to Alexandra Kallfelz.

Mrs. Marani and Mr. Schussler took their 11th grade classes to Borderland State Park to partake in a transcendental day observing nature without technology. The Law and the Legal System and Journalism courses participated in the OA Governor race. Once again, Mrs. Hadge's Humanities class visited the Gardner Museum on a field trip with the Art and Industrial Arts Departments.

Family & Consumer Science Department

The Family and Consumer Science/Industrial Technology Showcase was well-received and attended by many members of the Easton community. Students were given the opportunity to display their talents and view projects created by their peers in various courses offered in the department.

Students in the new World Foods class studied various areas of the world to compare customs, cuisines, and research global challenges. Through this experience, students learned to appreciate diverse cultures.

Guidance Department

The Oliver Ames guidance department is pleased to announce that the Class of 2017 had 87% of its members enroll in a 4-year college and 9% enroll in a 2-year or technical college. Students were accepted to colleges across 24 states, the District of Columbia, and Canada. Colleges included the Boston Conservatory, Brown University, Cornell University, Harvard University, Howard University, Middlebury College, Mount Holyoke College, University of Notre Dame, the United States Naval Academy, and Wesleyan University as well as many others. Early numbers indicate that nearly 55% of the Class of 2018 applied to at least one college by December 2017 and by January 2018, 88% of the class had submitted college applications.

The department is now in its third year implementing Virtual High School. Students are taking courses in areas such as AP Physics C, Genes & Disease, Astronomy Principles, Criminology, and Folklore & Literature.

In October, 314 sophomores and juniors complete the PSAT and an anticipated 317 students will take the AP exams in May across 18 subject areas.

In an effort to offer additional services and opportunities to families, the high school department offered a Common Application workshop to the Class of 2018. Multiple, two-day workshops were held in August 2017 to assist students with the application process. The program will run again next summer. A college admissions panel event will also be held in the spring. As more students are applying to colleges under "Early Action," there is a need to start meeting with families earlier to prepare. The panel of college admission representatives will speak to parents about the entire application process.

Industrial Technology Department

The Industrial Technology Department is committed to the ideals of STEM education. Students have several opportunities to apply their lessons and learn to refine their work through real-world problem solving and critical thinking challenges in a hands-on environment.

In 2017, students worked on some projects that challenged them in new ways. Power Tech students welded eight-foot tall towers that supported windmills they fabricated. They learned to repair small engine equipment and did repairs for community members and constructed and launched two-stage solid fuel rockets.

The Wood Shop students' lessons included studying the Shakers, their design forms and their influence in furniture making, general woodworking, and their passion for efficiency. Topics included a brief history of the Massachusetts Shakers and their impact on industry, design, and manufacture. Through their work, students learned three shop methods of applying geometry that are not used in the traditional math classroom. They learned how to lay out the ellipse shape that the Shakers used by using the string and tack method, the framing square method, and angling the beam of light from a flashlight to get a true ellipse shape. They also applied STEM science and engineering concepts by looking at microscope slides of various hardwood species to select the proper open celled materials suitable for hot water bending. Students had firsthand experience with how tension and compression stress points present at bending and how to work materials around a bending form.

The Metal Shop students continued to work in three areas of metals technology; sheet metal fabrication, welding technologies, and general metal fabrication. Projects included an OA version of the Kindling Cracker and a classic wrought iron shoe scraper project that students made using the tools and equipment in the shop. Metal shop students also helped to fabricate the copper hot water trays students used for hot water bending in the wood shop. Another community service project made by students included the fabrication of 40 ice melt scoops of their design using reclaimed material. Students then distributed the scoops to the school department custodial and maintenance staff.

Students in the Architectural and Engineering Graphics and Basic Technical Drawing classes applied geometry skills and learned manufacturing industry standards through basic drawing board and computer

aided drafting. In addition to all the CADD and drawing board work, several scale models were built by all technical graphics students. Building models of their designs challenged the students and allowed for a better understanding of their designs. Scale models included two sheet metal geodesic domes based on Buckminster Fuller's radical post WWII solution to the housing crisis, scale models of traditional wood frame houses, and welded prototypes of reverse engineering designs.

The culminating event of the 2016-17 school year was the Combined Industrial Arts and Family Consumer Science Show where students from every Industrial Arts class displayed their projects alongside the FCS students' work to for parents and community members.

Library/Media Center

The library is the academic focal point of the school. With the newly created Makerspace and STEM areas, faculty and students are taking full advantage of the resources available. Students are prepared for both school and the workplace with the necessary 21st Century learning skills taught by the librarian using the resources made available to them throughout the school year.

Math Department

The math department is committed to ensuring that all students have a foundation in algebra, geometry, and Algebra II. Beyond this, a range of opportunities exist for students to broaden and advance their mathematical understanding. In the fall of 2017, the department added AP Computer Science and Discrete Math to expand its course offerings.

The senior class recipients of the Mathematics Achievement Awards for 2017 were Alexandra Kallfelz, Nicholas Cavanaugh, and Nicholas Lombardi. In October, Ms. Walker traveled with a team of four seniors to compete in the fall WPI Math Meet in Worcester, and Mr. Carey's Math Topics students participated in Manufacturing Engineering Day at North Easton Machine.

The OA Math Team formed a new competitive group to participate in the South Shore Math League traveling to compete against other southern Massachusetts schools in addition to their participation in the American Atlantic-Pacific Mathematics Competition. The team continues to support Easton students through tutoring and involvement in STEAM events.

Mr. Hafferty coached a team of four students to compete in WGBH's High School Quiz Show in November, and, in December, two seniors participated in Liberty Mutual's High School Outreach Day with Mikaela Murphy placing first in the actuarial competition. The Iron Tigers Robotics Team advanced to the FIRST Robotics world competition in St. Louis, and continues to be an active member of the Easton community. They encourage and support students in grades K-8 through their involvement in STEAM events and the summer robotics program.

Music Department

The Music Department provides opportunities for every student to sing, play instruments, write and compose or listen to music intelligently, learn about the fundamentals of performance, and/or become a knowledgeable consumer and producer of music according to their individual interest and ability. The goal is to make music a pleasurable experience while using the skills learned to better navigate their future.

Over the past ten years, participation in the music program has grown starting at the elementary level and continues through high school. At Oliver Ames, 25% of the student population is involved in the music program. Additional courses have been added to benefit the other students as well, including AP Music Theory, Guitar Class, Music Technology, and Theatre Arts. These classes provide additional learning opportunities for students interested in the Arts. This year the number of band students and guitar students also increased at the high school.

Physical Education Department

Students worked to increase their fitness scores in Physical Education classes. The Fitness Gram program assesses health-related fitness components such as aerobic capacity, body composition, and muscular strength, endurance, and flexibility. Students were tested in the fall and spring. Fitness Gram allows teachers, administrators, parents, and most importantly, students, to know, understand and make positive changes to their health, and, in turn, build the healthy habits needed to carry them into the future. This program now begins at Richardson Olmsted and continues through the high school.

Selected OA students and teachers joined EMS in the pilot of the new Polar Heart Rate Monitors technology. OA also received one set of 30 monitors to guide the teaching of important physical education standards. The concepts included maximum heart rate and target heart rate. The sensors give students immediate feedback and the program tracks students' data.

Science Department

In February, Michelle Marro and Helen van Riel led thirty-two students on a marine ecology trip to the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador. The trip provided students with knowledge about Ecuadorian culture and how it ties to nature, as well as the importance of EcoTourism to the economics and environment of Ecuador. Students experienced what it was like to take a walk in Charles Darwin's footsteps and learn about the history that led to his theory of natural selection. They also got to observe some of the most unique wildlife on the planet that sparked some of the most influential ideas that are explored in biology classes.

Chemistry and Science Design Teacher Laura Ayasse ran another successful Science Olympiad at the Richardson Olmsted School. Science Design students and honors chemistry students led RO students in numerous scientific and engineering events. This yearly event is an excellent example of STEAM programming in the Easton Public Schools. Additionally, fifth grade students came to Oliver Ames to receive coaching from high school students on the design of their mousetrap cars.

The Science Team competed in Regional competitions as well as the State Science Competition. The Envirothon Team participated in the State Envirothon Competition in May where students presented a Community Research project about sustainable farming and were able to successfully grow basil in their own self-constructed hydroponic garden.

Senior recipients of the Science Achievement Award were Dana Lowney and Darren O'Malley.

Social Studies Department

The social studies department is committed to ensuring all students are given a foundation in historical thinking skills and an understanding of local, national, and world history. It provides a robust program that allows for students to pursue more specialized study in the social sciences.

Students at OA had a number of opportunities to extend learning beyond the classroom. The Mock Trial program, run by Mr. Gotsell, allows students to gain an insight into law and the legal system through competition against other schools in local courtrooms.

OA students elected two seniors, Nicholas Lombardi and Joseph LaBrosse, to Student Government Day at the Massachusetts State House. The OA Hockomock Model Senate program, run by Mr. Goldberg, had its annual two day event with day one at Mansfield High School and the second day at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate this year where students presented their bills to students from other schools in the League for debate, compromise, and voting.

The Local History class, taught by Mr. Darling, visited historic Easton sites in October. The senior Psychology students traveled to the Old Colony Correctional Facility to take part in the Project Youth Program. The Senior Project class, taught by Mr. Goldberg, had a successful culmination of its first year with final presentations in April and Community Night in October with the new class. Caitlyn Joyce's submission in the annual Veterans of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy speech contest won at the school and district levels.

The Social Studies Book Award recipients from the class of 2017 were Isabelle Ng, Dylan DeCosta, and Nick Lombardi. The recipients of the 2017 Hazel Varella Leadership Award were Catherine Murphy and Chris Meissner.

World Language Department

The World Language Department provides several opportunities for students to showcase their abilities in language study.

Mr. Sharkey's French students participated in the National French Exam in March. Several students earned distinction. The Silver Medal Winners were Sarah Barron, Lovedine Compere, Sarnise Compere, Kayla Hudson, and Olivia Pierce. The Bronze Medal Winners were Olivia Sato and Julia Sarro.

In June, the following seniors were awarded for achievement in language study at Senior Class Night: Michael Abela and Catherine Murphy for Spanish, Jordan Rainville and Taryn Reardon for French, and Noah Herman and Cassidy McNeeley for Latin.

All Latin students participated in the National Latin Exam in March. The Gold Medal Winners were Mavi Bianchini and Noah Herman. The Silver Medal Winners were Caitlin Grant, Kayla Hanscom, Brendan Morrison, and Sean Tammelleo.

Brendan Morrison won a Merit Scholarship for exceptional achievements and interest in Latin study. He was nominated by Mrs. Gove.

A group of Spanish V seniors traveled to Spain as part of the Cultural Exchange Program. In September, the department hosted a group of students from Spain at OA. The department continues to encourage and coordinate travel opportunities for language students to take their learning outside the classroom.

Conclusion

The community of Easton can and should be extremely proud of the Easton Public Schools. Not only does the system consistently rank among the highest performing districts in the state in a number of areas, but it does so in a fiscally responsible manner.

We are currently facing financial challenges as the state and federal contributions traditionally received by Easton are changing and legislative priorities are shifting. However, the dedicated staff and administrators, and the talented children of this Town are continuing the course toward continual improvement and growth. This work is not possible without the continued support of all stakeholders. Therefore, we wish to thank the School Committee, Town Administration, elected officials, parents, and citizens of Easton for their continued belief in the importance of the work being done in the Easton Public Schools and for their support of our efforts. We are honored to serve the young learners of Easton.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisha Cabral, EdD
Superintendent of Schools

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Department of Health & Community Services (HCS) is comprised of the Council on Aging, Health Department, Recreation and Veterans' services. This format leverages the strengths of each of these departments as they work cooperatively in achieving their similar goals of promoting health, wellness and community engagement.

The Department provides staff support to the Council on Aging, Board of Health and Recreation Commission.

Three of the departments are based at Frothingham Memorial Hall. This year saw the retirement of the Council on Aging part time Outreach Coordinator, Beverly Beavers after years of dedicated service to our seniors. We were able to expand the position to provide service to all our residents with a Full Time Outreach Coordinator, Kathleen Gouviea.

Council on Aging: The Council on Aging staff provides support to seniors by providing services and resources that enrich the lives of those living in our community. Utilizing a variety of funding sources such as the annual town budget, the Executive Office of Elder affairs formula grant, other grants, and donations, we are able to provide exciting and supportive programs such as:

- Fitness classes including Tai-Chi, Yoga, Senior Fitness, Sit & Get Fit and Zumba classes.
- Games including Recreation Bingo, Board Games, Canasta, Cribbage, Mah Jongg, Recreational Poker,
- Classes and Enrichment opportunities including Swedish Weaving and Quilting, painting, piano.
- Birthday Luncheons held every other month at The Housing Authority where entertainment is provided along with a healthy meal.
- Daily transportation for residents to a variety of local destinations including medical appointments, grocery stores, shopping malls, local hairdressers, and the community building at Parker Terrace and Frothingham Hall Community Center for Council on Aging programs and congregate meals. Transportation is available for civic activities such as voting as well. Up to 4 shuttle busses operate 5 days a week.
- Access to numerous supportive programs such as help filing income tax returns, navigating the health insurance options, and applications to financial assistance programs.

Board of Health: The Board of Health Staff provides technical support to the Board of health and fulfills many of the legally mandated duties. The department is responsible for licensing and inspecting a large number and type of establishments and operations including Body Art Establishments; Body Art Practitioners; Recreational Camps for Children; Motels/Trailer Parks; Food service including mobile food vendors, farmers markets, temporary events and all restaurants; Death Certificates (done with the help of the Town Clerk's office); Dumpsters; Dumpster Service; Funeral Directors; Disposal System Construction Permits; Disposal Works Installer Permits; Outdoor Sanitary Facilities; Title 5 inspectors; Public/Semi-public Swimming Pools; Tanning Facilities; Tobacco Sales Permits; Residential Curbside Trash Collectors; and Septic Pumping Trucks.

Additionally, the staff provides support to the community on all public health issues.

- Collaborated with South Easton Rehabilitation Nursing Home to have a Memorandum of Understanding as a Point of Distribution for emergency medication.
- Through emergency preparedness trainings and activities, collaborating with regional planners and town leaders we continue to prepare to provide active support or leadership in the event of an emergency.

- Health promotion activities in conjunction with the Town's contract nurse such as annual flu clinics, blood pressure clinics, health screening clinics and an annual rabies clinic coordinated by the Animal Inspector. The Contract Nurse conducted communicable disease investigations and provided information and guidance on emergent health issues such as Zika.
- We were able to once again offer a second free sharps collection day by working with BAMSI in supporting the efforts of Wings of Hope, a local coalition working on providing solution and resources in the evolving issue opioid use and addiction.
- We continue to administer the Septic Betterment loan program which has provides low interest loans for the purpose of replacing failed septic systems.
- The Department continue to us an online permitting program for all Board of Health permits and licenses applications. The Department utilizes tablets to conduct Food Establishment Inspections allowing them to include photographs as part of their inspections and to deliver reports to numerous parties via email.
- The professionals in the office maintained their education requirements for their state licenses and certifications by attending seminars and classes throughout the year on a variety of topics. We respond to complaints and concerns of conditions which could present a risk to the public health.

Veterans' Services: All veterans are invited to stop by and audit any and all benefits earned from the Veterans Administration, the State of Massachusetts, or other organizations that serve veterans to ensure receipt of all authorized services. We openly encourage any veteran, especially those of limited financial means, to visit and connect to the plethora of assistance they have earned due to their service to our country.

The Veterans' Service Officer works with various organizations and departments in an effort provide support to veterans and their families. The VSO is charged with:

- Refining of the processes to expedite claims, reimbursements, and payments of Chapter 115 benefits to ensure efficient, consistent and accurate delivery of benefits to our veterans.
- Advocating and assisting veterans in navigating the Veterans' Administration and associated benefits.
- Continuation of professional development by attended the Department of Veterans Services/Massachusetts Veterans Service Officer Association joint training conference.

Recreation: The Recreation staff works to offer a multitude of programs and special events to meet the recreational needs of all populations within the community.

- Programs include: Creative Writing and Craft Workshops, Flag Football, Karate, Running Club, Tennis, Girls Volleyball, March Madness Basketball, Basketball Clinics, Track and Field, Swimming Lessons, Full Day Summer Program, Wrestling, Tee Ball, Ultimate Frisbee, Babysitting Course, CPR and First Aid, Cross Country, Rock N Ropes and Outback Adventures at Maplewood, Men's Basketball, Sunday Morning Basketball, Ultimate Frisbee, Adult Line Dancing and Adult Co-Ed Volleyball.
- Thanks to the North Easton Savings Bank, we were able to host a Dale and The Duds concert at Frothingham Park. This was very well attended and we hope to offer more concerts in the future.
- The town pool had another successful year. This year the pool continued to offer memberships, swimming lessons and birthday parties. This year we offered weekend swim lessons and we were open on Sundays. We plan to continue this in the future.
- The crowds at the Children's Races were bigger than ever. We had over 200 runners per week ages 2-12. Ribbons and freeze pops were handed out. Many thanks to the MOMS Club, Cub Scouts, Coldwell Banker, Tiny Tots Nursery School and our community service volunteers for their donation of freeze pops and their help at the races.

- Ali's Park of Eastondale is near completion. The playground, basketball court, gazebo and the tee ball field are ready. The grass is planted, the walks are in and we are planning our 2018-opening day.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Kennedy
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SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical School District consists of a four-year public high school and a post-secondary technical institute. During 2016-2017, the high school offered twenty career majors to students from Brockton, East Bridgewater, Easton, Foxborough, Mansfield, Norton, Sharon, Stoughton and West Bridgewater. The Southeastern Technical Institute offered the following day programs: Practical Nurse, Medical Assisting and Dental Assisting. Evening programs included Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Driver's Education, Enrichment classes, HVAC, Medical classes, Phlebotomy, and Practical Nurse.

THE DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE consists of ten dedicated individuals elected from the communities of Brockton, East Bridgewater, Easton, Foxborough, Mansfield, Norton, Sharon, Stoughton and West Bridgewater.

Michael Pietrowski is the Easton Representative on the School Committee.

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School is a four-year public high school serving the young men and women from the City of Brockton and the Towns of East Bridgewater, Easton, Foxborough, Mansfield, Norton, Sharon, Stoughton, and West Bridgewater.

At Southeastern this year, students chose from twenty career majors in preparation for life's opportunities and challenges. Our school combines a rigorous academic curriculum with challenging vocational and technical studies to help students realize their full learning potential.

The schedule was designed to have students alternate between academic and technical coursework. This process promotes integration of studies and helps bridge the gap between theoretical and practical experience.

The hands-on approach to learning helps reconnect students to education, and provides the basis for life-long learning—an essential skill in today's highly competitive global market.

Upon graduation, students have the choice of furthering their education in any two or four year institution, internships, certification programs, military service or going directly into the workforce.

Exploratory Program—The goal at Southeastern is to have students choose a career major that excites them about school and education. Recognizing the fact that many incoming students had not spent much time considering their future, we developed a Freshman Exploratory Program which combines career counseling, career exploration, academic studies, and testing to help students make the right decision. Ninth grade applicants selected several technical areas they wished to explore. The exploratory program consists of examining many different program areas. Parents were encouraged to participate by asking their child about each program and by attending Freshman Parent Meetings.

Near the completion of the 9th grade, students were asked to choose a career major. Every effort was made to place students in their preferred career. Acceptance into many programs was highly competitive and students were ranked based on their effort, grades, behavior, and attendance. It was imperative that ninth grade students did well in all their classes, maintained nearly perfect attendance, and avoided behavioral issues. Students not getting their first choice were assigned an alternate program and placed on a waiting list. All our programs prepare students for high-demand, high-paying career fields.

SkillsUSA Massachusetts, in partnership with business and industry, provides opportunities for members to develop individually and improve teamwork, leadership and professional skills through education, training, service, and competition. SkillsUSA provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development. It builds and reinforces self-confidence, work attitudes and communications skills. It emphasizes total quality at work, high ethical standards, superior work skills, life-long education and pride in the dignity of work. SkillsUSA promotes understanding of the free enterprise

system and involvement in community service activities. Competitions were held at the district, state and national levels.

The Cooperative Education program provides supervised workplace employment opportunities and learning experiences for qualified high school students. The Co-op program was based on an agreement developed among an employer, a student, and the high school staff. All students were eligible to participate in Co-op, provided they met the basic qualifications required by the school and employer. During the 2016/17 school year, 149 students were successfully placed on Co-op.

The process began when students were recommended by their vocational education teacher as being ready to work in the trade. These "job-ready" students were matched with an employer who offered work hours in a job related to the student's career program. Students participated in Co-op during their technical-vocational cycles.

Seniors who were enrolled in a vocational program for a minimum of two years and exceptional eleventh grade students with two years in the program were recommended by their vocational instructors to participate in this program. The decision to accept a student for Co-op was based on the student's vocational skill level, academic grades, attendance, and conduct records. Students were required to have OSHA training and employability certification.

ACADEMICS

Southeastern Regional offers a full and rigorous series of academic classes comparable to any comprehensive school. A common misconception about vocational school academics is that they are "easier" because students are only here to learn a trade. In actuality, students who attend a vocational school who apply themselves are challenged more extensively than comprehensive school students. Not only do vocational students have the opportunity to gain skills in a specific trade, but they will also be on track to attend a four-year college by working through academic courses.

Small Classes—Our very small class sizes afforded all students the opportunity to be exposed to honors level content and assignments while working in an integrated classroom on the standards in the Massachusetts Frameworks. Academics in a 21st century vocational school were developed to ensure that students who take full advantage of our offerings will have more opportunities for high level jobs and greater success in the future.

Committed Staff—The Academic Department philosophy is that each teacher will strive to create and foster an environment that promotes students' confidence and their motivation to learn. The staff is committed to implementing our standards-based curriculum (in alignment with the guidelines prescribed by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education) in order to adhere to a clear and rational structure through which students, teachers, and parents can assess mastery. To ensure academic rigor, Southeastern is committed to differentiated instruction and inclusive classrooms because all students have the right to be exposed to the same high level curriculum. The Southeastern community understands and respects that our students are 21st century learners. Along with implementing traditional reading, writing, math, and critical thinking skills, we continued to be in the educational forefront by accommodating individual student needs, by embracing technology, by fostering skills that support success in vocational areas, and by making efforts to stay current in each field of expertise for the benefit of Southeastern students.

Honors and Advanced Placement Commitment—All students were exposed to a rigorous grade level appropriate curriculum in academic areas. In order that all students have the opportunity to excel, students were able to make the honors commitment in one or more academic courses. In an academic class, all students were expected to meet the standards of the core curriculum. Those who wanted to could receive honors credit and go above and beyond elected honors coursework, in person or online.

Honors coursework was designed for the independently motivated learner who chose to prepare rigorously for college level expectations. Honors students must be able to work independently on multiple tasks at a

given time. Honors students must be personally organized, disciplined, task committed, read above grade level, and self-motivated.

Honors students were expected to complete the entire core curriculum in addition to the projects, assessments, presentations, and readings that were required for honors students in a particular course/grade level/subject area. Work was assigned during vocational cycles and relied heavily on our web-based tools for learning. Honors students were required to have access to the internet at home, plan to use our computer labs, or plan to use their local library. Additional grade point average weight was given to students making the honors commitment, which could result in a higher class rank.

Virtual High School—Students who had proven to be independently motivated learners in all courses or in a particular content area aspiring to attend a four-year college were recommended to take one or more Virtual High School courses during their sophomore to senior years. These students were required to be able to work independently on multiple tasks at a given time, personally organized, disciplined, task committed, reading above grade level, and self-motivated.

Classes were teacher facilitated and took place entirely over the internet. Class sizes were limited to 25, with an emphasis on interaction between teachers and students. It included student-centered activities and discussions. Students were able to post work to their class anytime, day or night. Classes followed a semester schedule and assignments were due at specified weekly intervals. Students who were recommended for VHS, and made the yearlong commitment, were enrolled in two semester long four-credit courses or one year long eight-credit course. To ensure students stayed on track, students reported to a monitored computer lab for one block each academic cycle. The most recent course catalog is available by clicking “Catalog” under “Programs and Courses” at <http://thevhscollaborative.org/>.

VHS courses are monitored regularly and adhere to the National Education Association’s (NEA) recommended course guidelines for high quality online courses. Students may enroll at the Standard, Honors, Pre-Advanced Placement, or AP level. Advanced Placement testing takes place yearly at Southeastern.

READ 180, System 44 and Expert 21 are comprehensive reading intervention programs proven to meet the needs of struggling readers, directly addressing individual needs through differentiated instruction, adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature and non-fiction, and direct instruction in reading, writing, and vocabulary skills and foundational reading/phonics skills when necessary. To ensure that all students have the opportunity to excel, students identified through placement testing as reading significantly below grade level were enrolled in our Read 180 program during their freshman and sophomore years, and Expert 21 via 21st Century ELA (English Language Arts) for Juniors and Seniors.

Bridges to Algebra II and Math strategies supported students with significant deficiencies in mathematics. Students identified through placement testing as significantly below grade level were enrolled in our Math Strategies program during their sophomore year in conjunction with Bridges to Algebra II. The program directly addressed individual needs through differentiated instruction, adaptive and instructional software, and direct instruction in basic math skills and content area vocabulary skills.

ATHLETICS

There is a wide selection of athletic activities available to students at SRVTHS. For information regarding the Athletics Schedule or registration, please contact Athletic Director Dan Tripp: dtripp@sersd.org, 508-230-1279.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

There are many activity choices at Southeastern Regional. The following are just a few of the options:

Business Professionals of America, Community Service Club, Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA), Drivers' Education, Gay, Straight Alliance Club (GSA), National Honor Society, Non-Traditional Support Group, Peer Leadership, SADD, Ski Club, SkillsUSA, Student Council, Southeastern Travel Club and the Yearbook.

Participation in SkillsUSA and DECA provides Southeastern Regional students with the opportunity to earn local, state, and national awards for excellence in the technical skills they are learning at Southeastern Regional.

In addition to the above activities, Southeastern Regional offers school dances, Homecoming, Junior and Senior Proms, Winter Ball, Sports and SkillsUSA Award Dinners, field trips, and a variety of special events.

Period 9-10 returned in the Fall of 2016. Some of the choices offered to students for the 2016-2017 school year included Drama Club, Basketball Shoot Around, Intramural Soccer, Weight Lifting, Home Cooking, Chess Club and the Southeastern Bass Fishing Team.

learned. Tours also included visits to Medical Assisting, Carpentry, Early Childhood Education and Environmental & Biotechnology vocational programs, the Nurse's Office, and other departments and locations.

SOUTHEASTERN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

The Mission of the Southeastern Technical Institute is to transform students into lifelong learners. The Mission and Goals are organized around four core philosophies; the Mastery of Foundation Skills, the Development of Interpersonal Skills, Proactive Student Engagement, and a commitment to Stretch Learning Initiatives.

In the past 50 years, Southeastern Technical Institute has provided training in several vocational areas, constantly striving to meet the training needs of our students and area businesses. This year, the Technical Institute housed day and evening Practical Nurse programs, a Medical Assisting program, Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning program, and a Dental Assisting program. The new Culinary Arts and Cosmetology programs continued for a third year. In addition, there were several evening part-time programs designed to meet the training needs of our community.

In 2016, Southeastern Technical Institute applied to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to offer evening Electrical and Plumbing programs during the 2017/2018 academic year.

The STI participated in the Southeastern Regional School District's Program Advisory Committee, advising, assisting and supporting school personnel to improve planning, operation and evaluation of a program area, based on adequate and timely information as to workforce and job development demands or job market trends, technological developments, training alternatives and other factors affecting the quality of the program. The Committee consisted of representatives of local business and industry members related to each program, organized labor, post-secondary institutions, parents and guardians, students and representatives for registered apprenticeship programs, if applicable. Meetings were held in the fall of 2016 and spring of 2017.

EASTON'S CLASS OF 2017 GRADUATES

Southeastern's Class of 2017 Easton graduates were: April Amaral, Ashley Amaral, Michaela Berry, Brandon Borgeson, Dillon Card, Jacob Conley, Tyler Dixon, Michael Empey, Colby Filkins, Rachel Hugh, Ebad Khan, Jordan O'Hare, Joseph Sanford, Michael Schindler, and Mark Sessa.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Additional documents and information may be accessed at our website at www.sersd.org and www.stitech.edu.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN COLLECTOR

To the residents of Easton,

The collector is the officer to whom taxes, excises, betterments, special assessments and certain other charges are committed for collection. The collector is responsible for receiving all committed taxes and any and all amounts due the Town, and paying such amounts over to the Treasurer. The Treasurer serves as the Town's cash manager. The Treasurer maintains custody of all municipal funds and has the responsibility for the deposit, investment and disbursement of all town funds.

The Treasurer/Collector's office witnessed one departure of a valuable employee in 2017. We wish Nancy continued success at the Dept. of Public Works. In return, we are happy to welcome Meaghan Sullivan as the new collector/clerk and look forward to a long and happy relationship. I'd like to thank the entire department for jobs well done over the past couple of years, especially during the times of transition from one treasurer to the next.

Submitted for your review are various documents outlining a variety of financial data points. The reports are largely in summary form; please contact me for any further clarification.

I look forward to serving the Town for the next and many years to come. Please let us know if we can help in any way.

LINDA J. HAWKES, Treasurer/Collector
Linda L. Sheridan, Assistant Collector/Treasurer
Kathi Finn, Payroll Coordinator/Treasurer's Office
Susan Rowse, Principal Clerk/Collection
Meaghan Sullivan, Principal Clerk/Collection

COLLECTOR'S REPORT
FY 2017

	Billed	Abated/ Exempted	Refund	Commit to Tax Title	Paid	Balance 06/30/17
Real Estate	51,981,503	169,359	17,386	81,420	51,192,835	555,275
CPA	1,174,069	13,918	208	1,307	1,152,667	6,385
						0
Personal Property	1,101,959	148	498		1,081,280	21,029
						0
Excise *	4,044,338	182,824	58,520		3,806,806	113,228
						0
Water/ Sewer	3,230,668	5,389	2,031		3,013,035	214,275
						0
Trash	1,138,297	7,204	1,137		791,385	340,845

**calendar year

Schedule of Outstanding Receivables as of 06/30/2017

Personal Property

FY2017	\$	21,028.58
FY2016	\$	12,477.12
FY2015	\$	12,355.98
FY2014	\$	11,230.19
Prior Years	\$	35,460.63
	\$	92,552.50

Real Estate

FY2017	\$	555,274.88
FY2016	\$	(29.22)
FY2015	\$	(7.40)
FY2014	\$	0.96
Prior Years	\$	582.50
	\$	555,821.72

CPA	\$	6,385.04
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Motor Vehicle Excise

CY2017	\$	257,025.56
CY2016	\$	68,487.60
CY2015	\$	28,022.86
CY2014	\$	16,355.05
Prior Years	\$	193,239.34
	\$	563,130.41

Tax Liens/Tax Title	\$	813,254.56
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Tax Foreclosures	\$	365,197.50
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User Charges Receivable

Water	\$	211,814.62
Sewer	\$	2,460.35
Trash	\$	340,845.24
Utility Liens added to Tax	\$	7,871.61
Ambulance	\$	2,382,331.72
Police Details	\$	69,427.05

Special Assessments	\$	14,266.29
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Apportioned Assessments Not Due	\$	4,594,771.73
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Suspended Assessments	\$	182,825.42
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ANNUAL REPORT OF TAX TITLE ACCOUNTS

Balance - July 1, 2016	\$	936,139.80
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Additions:

New Tax Takings	\$	192,197.00
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Deductions:

Redemptions/Paid	\$	314,317.00
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Foreclosures/Auctions:	\$	2,547.05
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Balance - June 30, 2017	\$	<u>811,472.75</u>
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Bank Balances 12/31/2017

Bank of Easton	Water lockbox	1,310,861.27
Bartholomew Investments	General Investment Account	925,416.08
Bristol County Savings Bank	Depository General Fund	2,066,639.58
	State Aid - Wires	1,490,406.41
	Money Market	1,441,635.79
	Tailings	34,258.33
	Meal Pay Plus	275,043.25
	No Interest Depository	48,189.33
Century Bank	Sports Pilot	215,813.81
Citizen's Bank	School Bonds	167,289.75
	Depository Acct	58,009.22
	OAHS Student Activity	248,642.19
	Water Acct	1,055,377.30
	EMS Student Activity	38,867.63
	Activity Acct Middle Sch	5,000.00
	PIP - money market	53,755.26
Eastern Bank	School Lunch	130,364.77
	Money Market	598,613.84
	Payroll Acct	64.00
	Vendor Acct	-238,885.35
	Lockbox Account	254,918.91
Easthampton Savings Bank	ESB General Fund MM	351,203.47
	ESB Transfer Acct	13,037.89
	Peer Review -- 53 G	338,805.17
MA Municipal Depository Trust	General Depository	455,096.84
	Cultural Council	12,045.11
	Water Acct	2,278.87
	Police Law Enforcement Trust	2,241.29
Mansfield Savings Bank	General Fund	1,816,458.58
North Easton Savings Bank	Ambulance Receipts	390,252.30
Rockland Trust	Ambulance Account	493,312.00
	Online Payments Acct	1,446,317.72
Unibank	General Fund	1,973,080.80
	Online Acct Depts	740,673.20
Webster Bank	General Fund/Tailings	58,777.71
	FSA	33,730.76

Non-General Fund Balances 12/31/17

****adjusted for pending transfers**

Collector's Drawer		600.00
OAHS Imprest Acct		6,000.00
Bartholomew Investments	Catherine Hobart Ames Schol	316,529.81
	CPA	4,185,250.49
	OPEB	111,953.21
	Capital Stabilization**	1,998,626.58
	Stabilization Funds	2,222,105.40
BC Savings Bank	Scholarships	140,713.63
	300th Anniversary Trust	13,352.75
	Affordable Housing Trust	1,148,027.29
Century Bank	Cemetery Trusts	42,818.65
	Mary A. Stone Library Fund	6,511.15
	Scholarships	13,276.55
Easthampton Savings Bank	Performance Bonds	587,167.29
MMDT (MA Mun DepositoryTrust)	Conservation	161,619.69
	Unemployment	22,612.70
	CPA	93,673.66
North Easton Savings Bank	WW Mem Scholarship	43,116.37
Performance Bond Passbooks		57,181.26
Vanguard Invest. 09912554250	Parker-Ames Investment Acc	248,784.93
Webster	OAHS Naming Campaign	76,042.79

DEBT OUTSTANDING

Long Term Debt Inside the Debt Limit	Outstanding July 1, 2016	+ New Debt Issued	- Retirements	= Outstanding June 30, 2017	Interest Paid in FY2017
Buildings	335,000.00	200,000.00	60,000.00	475,000.00	15,015.00
Departmental Equipment	1,765,000.00	350,000.00	245,000.00	1,870,000.00	54,999.00
School Buildings	15,046,500.00		1,335,000.00	13,711,500.00	540,892.00
School - All Other	725,000.00		120,000.00	605,000.00	17,350.00
Sewer	4,289,441.00		130,197.00	4,159,244.00	91,886.00
Solid Waste				0.00	
Other Inside	9,536,500.00	500,000.00	800,000.00	9,236,500.00	289,113.00

SUB - TOTAL Inside	\$31,697,441.00	\$1,050,000.00	\$2,690,197.00	\$30,057,244.00	\$1,009,255.00
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Long Term Debt Outside the Debt Limit	Outstanding July 1, 2016	+ New Debt Issued	- Retirements	= Outstanding June 30, 2017	Interest Paid in FY2017
Airport				0.00	
School Buildings	3,845,000.00	70,000.00	1,350,000.00	2,565,000.00	130,378.00
Sewer				0.00	
Solid Waste Landfill	1,305,000.00		300,000.00	1,005,000.00	34,625.00
Water	1,482,000.00	400,000.00	170,000.00	1,712,000.00	48,408.00
Other Outside	1,150,284.00	500,000.00	67,571.00	1,582,713.00	1,505.00

SUB - TOTAL Outside	\$7,782,284.00	\$970,000.00	\$1,887,571.00	\$6,864,713.00	\$214,916.00
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TOTAL Long Term Debt	\$39,479,725.00	\$2,020,000.00	\$4,577,768.00	\$36,921,957.00	\$1,224,171.00
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Short Term Debt	Outstanding July 1, 2016	+ Issued	- Retired	= Outstanding June 30, 2017	Interest Paid in FY2017
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RANs - Revenue Anticipation				0.00	
BANs - Bond Anticipation:					
Buildings	200,000.00		200,000.00	0.00	1,667.00
School Buildings	530,000.00	100,000.00	530,000.00	100,000.00	6,728.00
Water	400,000.00		400,000.00	0.00	7,956.00
Other BANs	8,835,000.00	10,480,000.00	8,835,000.00	10,480,000.00	105,345.00
Other Short Term Debt-MCWT	654,840.00	166,039.00	500,000.00	320,879.00	

TOTAL Short Term Debt	\$10,619,840.00	\$10,746,039.00	\$10,465,000.00	\$10,900,879.00	\$121,696.00
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GRAND TOTAL All Debt	\$50,099,565.00	\$12,766,039.00	\$15,042,768.00	\$47,822,836.00	\$1,345,867.00
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Authorized and Unissued Debt					
Purpose	Date of Vote	Article Number	Amount Authorized	- Issued - Retired - Rescinded	= Unissued 6/30/2017
Library Access Road	05/20/02	12	400,000.00		400,000.00
School Boiler	11/10/10	11	250,000.00		250,000.00
Middle School Roof	11/19/12	30	2,250,000.00	2,176,078.00	73,922.00
Moreau Hall Roof & Boiler	11/04/13	9	1,500,000.00	800,000.00	700,000.00
DPW Pavement Mngmnt	05/19/14	21	1,500,000.00	1,000,000.00	500,000.00
Septic System Upgrade	05/19/14	22	1,000,000.00		1,000,000.00
ESCO Energy Efficiency	11/17/14	11	3,184,157.00		3,184,157.00
Water Well #4	05/18/15	17	2,200,000.00	200,000.00	2,000,000.00
Queset Wastewater Trtmnt	05/18/15	20	3,070,000.00		3,070,000.00
Queset Sewer Design	05/18/15	21	2,790,000.00		2,790,000.00
5 Corners Wastewater Trtmnt	05/18/15	22	8,300,000.00		8,300,000.00
5 Corners Sewer Design	05/18/15	23	1,300,000.00		1,300,000.00
Wastewater Trtmnt - School	11/16/15	5	330,000.00		330,000.00
Hooklift -DPW	11/16/15	5	200,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
School Security	05/16/16	17	209,000.00		209,000.00
Pavement Management	11/14/16	4	500,000.00		500,000.00
Hooklifts - 2	11/14/16	4	240,000.00		240,000.00
Municipal Facilities Cap Imp	11/14/16	4	200,000.00		200,000.00
Water Main - Depot St	05/15/17	19	3,667,000.00		3,667,000.00
Ambulance	05/15/17	19	280,000.00		280,000.00
Bucket Truck	05/15/17	19	210,000.00		210,000.00
Municipal Facilities Cap Imp	05/15/17	19	200,000.00		200,000.00
Hooklift	05/15/17	19	120,000.00		120,000.00
Salt Brine Generator etc	05/15/17	19	100,000.00		100,000.00
Phone System Upgrade	05/15/17	19	66,000.00		66,000.00
					\$29,790,079.00

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT

I hereby submit the report of the Town Accountant for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, which includes the combined balance sheet as of that date and the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund equity.

The office of the Town Accountant is responsible for the accounting and control of all town funds, disbursements, and financial records in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and by-laws of the Town of Easton. In addition, responsibilities include maintenance of the Town's general ledger system including detailed records of cash receipts, appropriations and expenditures, and the closing of all financial books at the end of the fiscal year. The Town Accountant prepares financial statements and reports, plays a key role in the preparation of the Town budget and works with the independent auditors on the annual financial and compliance audit. Our annual audit for the fiscal year was completed by Melanson, Heath & Company, PC of Andover, Massachusetts.

At the May 15, 2017 Annual Town Meeting, the legislative body voted to create a Department of Municipal Finance. The creation of the department was recommended by the Department of Revenue as a best management practice to unify and coordinate the financial functions of the Town's existing departments of Town Accountant, Assessors, and Collector/Treasurer with the role of Finance Director assumed by the Town Accountant.

I would especially like to thank all the members of the municipal finance department team: Assistant Town Accountant Adilia Collazo, Principal Clerk Peg Horne, Chief Assessor Robert Alford II, Assessors Assistant Ellen Weene, Assessors Office Assistant Maureen Call, Collector/Treasurer Linda Hawkes, Assistant Treasurer/Collector Linda Sheridan, Payroll Coordinator Kathi Finn, and Principal Clerks Susan Rowse and Meaghan Sullivan for their hard work and dedication to the Town. Maureen Call recently retired after 12 years of loyal service and we wish her many years of health and happiness in her retirement. I would also like to thank all the Town Departments, Boards, Commissions and Committees for their cooperation and support this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy V. Nightingale
Finance Director/Town Accountant

TEL: (508) 230-0560

FAX: (508) 230-0569

E-Mail: wnightingale@easton.ma.us

TOWN OF EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP
JUNE 30, 2017

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Group General	Total
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust and Agency	Long-Term Debt	(Memorandum Only)
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	7,507,378	8,538,549	2,554,579	2,881,306	7,018,399	-	28,500,211
Receivables:							
Real estate taxes	588,057	6,385	-	-	-	-	594,442
Personal property taxes	92,553	-	-	-	-	-	92,553
Tax liens and foreclosures	1,178,452	-	-	-	-	-	1,178,452
Utility user charges receivable	-	-	-	555,120	-	-	555,120
Utility liens	-	-	-	7,872	-	-	7,872
Betterments	-	1,243,845	-	3,542,393	-	-	4,786,238
Motor vehicle excise and other excise	563,130	-	-	-	-	-	563,130
Departmental and other	2,382,332	69,427	-	5,625	-	-	2,457,384
Intergovernmental	68,660	66,950	421,653	-	-	-	557,263
Long Term Loans Receivable	-	4,885,605	-	-	-	-	4,885,605
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	(704,916)	-	-	-	-	-	(704,916)
Due from other funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fixed assets, net	-	-	-	-	-	155,416,651	155,416,651
Amount to be provided for payment of long-term obligations	-	-	-	-	-	37,719,243	37,719,243
Total Assets	11,675,646	14,810,761	2,976,232	6,992,316	7,018,399	193,135,894	236,609,248
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY							
Liabilities:							
Warrants payable	1,130,849	-	-	-	-	-	1,130,849
Accrued liabilities	760,951	-	-	-	-	-	760,951
Due to other funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deferred revenue	4,099,607	6,205,262	421,653	4,111,010	-	-	14,837,532
Tax refunds payable	81,915	-	-	-	-	-	81,915
Other liabilities	272,473	73,690	-	-	820,164	-	1,166,327
Notes payable	-	320,879	10,580,000	-	-	-	10,900,879
General long-term debt	-	-	-	-	-	37,719,243	37,719,243
Total Liabilities	6,345,795	6,599,831	11,001,653	4,111,010	820,164	37,719,243	66,597,696
Fund Equity:							
Retained earnings:							
Reserved	-	-	-	284,901	-	-	284,901
Unreserved	-	-	-	2,596,405	-	-	2,596,405
Fund Balances:							
Reserved for encumbrances	238,612	-	-	-	-	-	238,612
Reserved for continuing appropriations	585,843	243,586	-	-	-	-	829,429
Reserved for expenditures	1,585,504	928,601	-	-	-	-	2,514,105
Reserved for nonexpendable trust principal	-	-	-	-	61,567	-	61,567
Reserved for unexpended exempt debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reserved for petty cash	600	-	-	-	-	-	600
Unreserved:							
Designated for snow & ice / overlay deficit	(298,034)	-	-	-	-	-	(298,034)
Undesignated	3,217,326	7,038,743	(8,025,421)	-	6,136,668	155,416,651	163,783,967
Total Fund Equity	5,329,851	8,210,930	(8,025,421)	2,881,306	6,198,235	155,416,651	170,011,552
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	11,675,646	14,810,761	2,976,232	6,992,316	7,018,399	193,135,894	236,609,248

TOWN OF EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND EQUITY
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Group	Total
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Debt	(Memorandum Only)
Revenues							
Property taxes	52,329,292	1,378,226	-	-	-	-	53,707,518
Excise taxes	3,940,334	-	-	-	-	-	3,940,334
Penalties, interest & fines	374,843	2,453	-	155,566	-	-	532,862
Licenses, permits and fees	1,008,130	-	-	-	-	-	1,008,130
Investment income	42,050	61,604	-	57	74,477	-	178,188
Departmental	1,748,930	3,229,450	-	-	-	-	4,978,380
Intergovernmental - state	13,385,142	1,956,047	612,135	-	-	-	15,953,324
Intergovernmental - federal	537	1,401,088	-	-	-	-	1,401,625
User charges	-	-	-	4,570,246	-	-	4,570,246
Other	818,862	1,793,044	328,012	528,099	58,490	-	3,526,507
	73,648,120	9,821,912	940,147	5,253,968	132,967	-	89,797,114
Expenditures							
General government	14,902,229	478,439	-	495,509	253,266	-	16,129,443
Public safety	8,920,449	727,038	-	-	2,888	-	9,650,375
Education	39,413,985	4,475,415	138,252	-	56,730	-	44,084,382
Public works	3,162,407	1,884	2,255,551	3,078,227	-	-	8,498,069
Human services	918,745	897,503	-	-	-	-	1,816,248
Culture and recreation	548,376	189,155	-	-	-	-	737,531
Debt service	4,988,810	535,218	-	399,607	-	-	5,923,635
State and county assessments	836,127	-	-	-	-	-	836,127
Capital outlay	552,522	892,797	3,032,711	181,036	-	-	4,659,066
	74,243,650	8,197,449	5,426,514	4,154,379	312,884	-	92,334,876
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(595,530)	1,624,463	(4,486,367)	1,099,589	(179,917)	-	(2,537,762)
Other financing sources (uses):							
Proceeds from long-term borrowing	-	500,000	1,520,000	-	-	-	2,020,000
Investment in fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	963,682	(2,666,483)	86,487	(624,691)	2,045,124	-	(195,881)
	963,682	(2,166,483)	1,606,487	(624,691)	2,045,124	-	1,824,119
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other uses	368,152	(542,020)	(2,879,880)	474,898	1,865,207	-	(713,643)
Beginning fund equity	4,961,699	8,752,950	(5,145,541)	2,406,408	4,333,028	155,416,651	170,725,195
Ending fund equity	5,329,851	8,210,930	(8,025,421)	2,881,306	6,198,235	155,416,651	170,011,552

2017 REPORT OF THE CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Capital Planning Committee is charged with the responsibility of planning and subsequently recommending to the Town Administrator a Capital Improvement Program identifying the Town’s future capital projects, programs, improvements and acquisitions having a useful life of at least five years and a cost of at least \$25,000, including requests for funds for a class of assets that exceeds \$25,000.

In evaluating and scheduling the requests of the operating departments, the Committee will use the following criteria, listed in order of priority:

- (1) Imminent threat to the health and safety of citizens or property
- (2) Requirement of state or federal law or regulation
- (3) Existing capital assets that for reasons of age, operability, or functionality have become obsolete or in need of replacement
- (4) Improvement in technology or the physical infrastructure that will create greater efficiency, lower operational cost of the asset or program, or achieve an important public safety, educational, economic, or quality of life goal of the Town of Easton
- (5) Improvement of a capital asset to facilitate maintenance of operations, not to include ordinary maintenance: these are intended to be expenditures that will avoid costly replacement in the future
- (6) Alleviation of an overburdened situation

The Capital Planning Committee is composed of the Town Accountant, ex officio, one member of the Town Finance Committee appointed by and from it, one member of the Planning and Zoning Board appointed by and from it and four additional members to be appointed by the Moderator. The members from the Finance Committee and the Planning Board are appointed for one-year terms. Members appointed by the Moderator server four year terms, such that the term of office of one member expires each year. Current members of the capital planning committee are Harris Bloomwald (Chair), Colin McCarthy (Vice Chair), James Condon, Christopher Veale, Peter Deschenes (Planning Board Member), Greg Fraser (Finance Committee Member) and Wendy Nightingale (Town Accountant).

The fiscal year 2018 capital budget funded in 2017 was as follows:

Department	Brief Description of Item	Initial Fiscal Year of Request	Requested FY 2018	Funded FY2018
Fire	Rescue Pumper- replace Engine #1 1992	3/1/2004	587,000	587,000
Fire/Ambulance	Hurst Battery Operated rescue tools	9/1/2016	37,000	37,000
Fire	Engine #4 Repairs	FY 2018	49,296	49,296
Ambulance	Ambulance , Replace A2- 2008	10/16/2012	280,000	280,000
DPW - Buildings & Grounds	Municipal Facilities Capital Improvements	FY2015	200,000	200,000
DPW - Buildings & Grounds	Motor Equipment:Bucket Truck	FY2014	210,000	210,000
Police	Three Marked Police Vehicles	Annual	131,020	131,020
DPW - Highway	Salt Brine Generator/Tanks/Spreaders	FY2018	100,000	100,000
DPW - Highway	Motor Equipment:Hooklift (F550)	FY2014	120,000	120,000

Department	Brief Description of Item	Initial Fiscal Year of Request	Requested FY 2018	Funded FY2018	
Information Technology	27 Dell Optiplex 3010MT computers, 25 with Microsoft Office Standard Edition and 2 with Microsoft Office Professional Edition.	FY2018	27,984	27,984	
Information Technology	IP Camera Security System for the Town Offices and Frothingham Hall. (Same system used at the schools.)	FY2018	10,783	10,783	1
Information Technology	Telephone System Upgrade	FY2018	66,000	66,000	1
DPW - Highway	Pavement Management Road Funding	FY2014	500,000	500,000	
School	Feasibility Study for Center School	FY2018	1,000,000	1,000,000	
DPW – Sewer	Additional Funds for Queset Sewer Collection System Construction	FY2018	900,000	900,000	
School - Technology	Computers	1/18/2017	93,841		
School - HHR/FLO	Replace Make-up Air Unit-Heating System	12/30/2016	40,000		
School - SPED	New Special Education School Van	10/1/2016	57,000		
School - Technology	Upgrade network infrastructure	1/18/2017	9,800		
School - Technology	Projectors	1/18/2017	47,887		
School - Technology	Firewall License	1/18/2017	8,550		
DPW - Buildings & Grounds	Motor Equipment:Hooklift (F550)	FY2014	120,000		
DPW - Highway	Motor Equipment:Hooklift (35K GVW)	FY2014	210,000		
School - OAHS	Replace 30 Windows (broken seals)	10/1/2016	30,000		
DPW - Highway	South Street Culvert Replacement	FY2018	450,000	450,000	2
DPW - Water Division	Water Main Replacement Program (Depot St. Project)	FY2018	3,667,000	3,667,000	1
DPW - Water Division	Water Main Replacement Program (In-house)	FY2018	100,000	100,000	1
DPW - Water Division	Motor Equipment: Ford F250 Utility Truck w/ Plow	FY2018	47,000	47,000	1
DPW - Water Division	Vibratory Plate Trench Compactor	FY2018	36,000	36,000	1
Total			9,136,161	8,519,083	

1 - Funded at Annual Town Meeting on May 15, 2017. All other items funded at the Special Town Meeting on November 13, 2017 unless otherwise noted.

2 – Funded through Massachusetts Small Bridge Grant Program.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

The Budget Subcommittee was formed as a coalition of Selectmen, School Committee and Finance Committee members in order to lay the groundwork for each fiscal year's budget process. This collaborative approach allows input from stakeholders and discussions around priorities. In its twelfth year, it continues to contribute significantly to a key function of the Town.

In 2017, the committee met several times early in the year in preparation of Town Meeting and then again in the fall to start on the next budget and review issues surrounding Special Town Meeting.

It was an honor to chair this critical committee and I thank all the members for their passion, ideas and commitment.

Sincerely,

Caroline O'Neill, Chair
Janice Wolff, Vice Chair
Craig Barger
Kevin McIntyre
Patrick McCarthy
Jacki Weisman
Connor Read
Lisha Cabral

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee's primary functions are as follows:

1. Make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen on the selection of, and scope of services for, an independent auditor.
2. Review the annual financial statements and management reports prepared by the independent auditor and make recommendations with respect thereto.
3. Make recommendations for areas of operations where expanded scope audits or review of the internal controls may be appropriate.
4. Review and make recommendations with respect to the Town's financial management practices and controls; through the Town Administrator, review with the appropriate boards and departments opportunities to improve such practices and controls.
5. Report to the Board of Selectmen on the status of recommendations the Committee and/or independent auditor has made during the preceding twelve (12) months.
6. Submit a summary of their work for the preceding calendar year for inclusion in the Town's Annual Report.

An operational audit of the Town of Easton and Easton Public Schools was conducted by the Abrahams Group in 2016 and 2017. The final report was completed and presented to the Town over three public information sessions on April 24, 2017, April 26, 2017 and June 5, 2017. The Audit Committee developed the scope of work for this project and met multiple times during 2017 to discuss the progression of work and the results. The report is published on the Audit Committee's web page at www.easton.ma.us (select Boards & Committees and then Audit Committee from the drop-down menu, then select the Operational Audit link to the left of the page). The Committee submitted a report to the Board of Selectmen summarizing key findings in the areas of staffing, compensation and benefits and will work in the upcoming year to report on the status of other sections of the report.

The Town's annual financial audit was conducted by Melanson Heath PC. The fiscal 2016 report was completed in March of 2017 and the Town received an unqualified opinion; also referred to as a "clean opinion." Work on the fiscal 2017 audit is underway with expected completion in the spring of 2018.

The Audit Committee is comprised of one (1) member of the Board of Selectmen, one (1) member of the Finance Committee, one (1) member of the School Committee, and two (2) at-large members. In addition, the Town's Finance Director/Town Accountant, serves as an ex-officio member.

Members and officers as of 12/31/17 are as follows:

- Janice Wolfe, Chair, Appointed by the Finance Committee
- Jonathan Pike, Vice Chair, Member-at-Large
- Leonard Berkowitz, Member-at-Large
- Nancy DeLuca, appointed by the School Committee
- Kevin McIntyre, appointed by the Board of Selectmen
- Wendy Nightingale, Finance Director/Town Accountant, ex-officio

We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to our previous members that served on the committee during the year: Carol Nestler, Laura Fogel, Patrick McCarthy and Daniel Murphy.

Respectfully submitted,
Audit Committee

2017 REPORT OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT

The Annual Audit of the books and accounts of the Town of Easton for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2017 was made by Melanson Heath and Company, PC, Certified Public Accountants. A copy of the report is available online and is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Danielle Sicard, MMC/CMMC
Town Clerk

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Overview

The Department of Public Works is responsible for the overall operation, maintenance, and capital improvements of the Town's infrastructure including roads, sidewalks, water, drainage, sewer, municipal buildings, traffic control devices, fields, and trees. The Department is comprised of the Administration Division, Water Division, Highway Division, and Buildings and Grounds Division.

Management

David Field, P.E., Director of Public Works
Jack Marsh, Water Operations Manager
Jay Conceison, Highway Supervisor
Joshua Ford, Water System Supervisor
Todd Texeira, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor

The Administration, Highway, and Buildings and Grounds divisions are located at 130 Center Street. The Water Division is located at 417 Bay Road.

Activities and Projects

During 2017 we had eighteen (18) snow and ice events with a total accumulation of 54.2 inches of snow. During that time the DPW applied 2,632 tons of road salt and 21,056 gallons of magnesium chloride. The total cost of snow and ice operations for the calendar year was \$522,887.

While snow and ice removal is a typical function for any DPW, the importance of the task and the preparations necessary cannot be overstated. I want to recognize the hard work and dedication of all of the DPW employees including Highway Supervisor Jay Conceison for their efforts. The Easton DPW is extremely well prepared for the snow and ice season. Each year, employees receive specialized training in the latest techniques, equipment, and materials used to combat snow and ice. In addition, the DPW has implemented an advanced automatic vehicle location (AVL) system to bolster our capabilities and operational awareness. During 2017, DPW was able to secure capital funding to purchase the equipment needed to create and spread salt brine as yet another tool in our snow and ice efforts.

In 2013, the Town took ownership of 1,450 streetlights from National Grid. Purchasing the streetlights has resulted in an annual savings of approximately \$100,000 per year. Initially, the DPW contracted out the maintenance of streetlights to Dagle Electric, but took over the maintenance of the streetlights in July 2015. All Town lights have also been converted to LED. The conversion to LED streetlights has resulted in an annual energy savings of approximately \$57,000. In 2017, 27 streetlights were maintained by DPW.

In February of 2017 the DPW published the recommended FY2018-FY2020 Pavement Management Plan. The plan recommended spending approximately \$2.5 million on various pavement repairs over the next three years, and approximately \$1.25 million in the first year. Some of the highlights of the work completed in 2017 included the paving of Mill Street, Rockland Street, Chestnut Street, Columbus Avenue, a portion of Elm Street, a portion of Gilmore Road, Holly's Lane, Julie Road, Leonard Road, and Oak Ridge Drive. In addition, crack sealing was performed on various roads throughout Town. In summary, the DPW completed improvements to 77,981 linear feet of roads at a total cost of \$779,184. The overall road surface rating (RSR) improved to a 75 and the backlog of needed repairs remained at approximately \$18.5 million. It should be noted that in addition to requiring the use of Superpave mix designs and QA/QC testing and inspection of installed pavement, the DPW exclusively used warm mix asphalt this year. Warm mix asphalt is essentially identical to conventional hot mix asphalt with the exception that it contains an additive that allows it to be compacted at lower temperatures. This ability to be compacted at lower temperatures allows the mix to be produced at lower temperatures thereby reducing emissions and extending the asphalt binder life.

In anticipation of the paving of Allen Road in 2018, the Highway Division installed a new drainage system on Allen Road. The system was designed in-house and constructed by the Highway Division. The project involved the installation of approximately 3,400 feet of 12" drainage pipe, 13 catch basins, 8 manholes, 6 Gutter inlets, and 250 feet of 6" drainage pipe. In addition, the project included the removal of ledge and boulders, replacement of a 12" corrugated metal culvert, removal of the old drainage structures, patching of trenches, and restoration of sidewalks.

The DPW oversees the operation and maintenance of the North Easton Village Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The current operations contractor is Weston & Sampson. In 2017 the North Easton Village WWTP treated 5,537,000 gallons of wastewater. During this time the average daily flow to the plant was 15,170 gallons per day.

On 4/22/2017 the DPW hosted Household Hazardous Waste Day.

On 4/28/2017 the DPW celebrated Arbor Day and planted a tree at the Town Pool.

On 4/29/2017 the Water Division hosted its 33rd Annual Open House.

The DPW has continued its GIS efforts in the areas of data development, web service and application deployment, map publishing, support for Town departments, and system administration. Some of the projects related to data development include, the update tax parcel and submittal to the Commonwealth, the inclusion address information from the Town Clerk's office with existing address point data, the acquisition of new imagery, elevation and planimetric data under contract with WSP, and the integration of water utility data into the enterprise GIS environment.

Several new services and applications were deployed to support the operations of the Water Division. With the integration of water utility data into the enterprise environment, the activities once supported by a third-party vendor are now supported by the Town's GIS. Field applications have been deployed to conduct inspections and access information on mobile devices. Web applications have been configured to support operations management in the office.

In addition to the new activities to support the Water Division, GIS continues to support DPW operations and other department activities. New implementations of GIS on mobile devices better support activities for the DPW. The DPW continues to support the Assessor's department by maintaining parcel information and generating tax maps. New maps and applications were completed to support other departments such as Fire and Planning & Economic Development.

GIS system administration is ongoing and includes database maintenance, system upgrades and programming/scripting related to the maintenance of web services and applications, data publishing, and system integration.

Construction on the \$3.18 million energy management services project was completed in May 2017. Work on the project began in April 2015. The contractor, Ameresco, completed the installation of energy conservation measures that will ultimately be funded from the energy savings resulting from those upgrades. In addition to the energy conservation measures Ameresco installed solar photovoltaic systems at the Middle School and High School. Under the agreement the Town will save \$1.4 million over the 20 year life of the panels. Construction of the solar panels began in August 2016 and was complete the first week of January 2017. The panels are now fully operational.

The Town issued a Notice to Proceed to I.W. Harding of West Bridgewater on March 28th to begin the Queset Roadway Improvement Project. This project involved the widening of Washington Street at Roosevelt Circle and the installation of a new crosswalk and pedestrian warning lights (known as rectangular rapid flashing beacons). The design and construction for this project was funded through a MassWorks Grant of \$1,000,000 which was awarded to the Town to help support the Queset Commons Development. Work on this project was completed in June.

The DPW is working with BETA Group to complete the design of improvements and the signalization of the intersection of Union Street and Washington Street. The project is currently included in the 2018 element of the TIP. MassDOT held the 25% design public hearing on July 14, 2016. Final plans are scheduled to be completed in January 2018. Construction of the project is anticipated to begin in late 2018 or 2019.

The DPW has continued to work with BETA Group to advance the design of the Depot Street corridor project. The proposed project includes roadway, sidewalk, and drainage improvements from Fox Ridge Road to Washington Street. The DPW and BETA presented several options for the signalization and improvement of the intersection of Center Street and Depot Street to the Historical Commission and the Board of Selectmen. 25% plans were submitted to MassDOT in September 2015. This project has been included in the 2020 TIP element by the Old Colony Planning Council.

MassDOT has approved the Project Initiation Form (PIF) for the intersection improvements and signalization of Elm Street and Washington Street. Previously, the DPW has been working with BETA Group to develop conceptual design options for intersection, hold public outreach sessions, and submit the Project Need Form (PNF). The Town has entered into a contract with BETA Group to bring the project up to 25% design. The DPW will continue to advocate for this project to be included in the regional TIP in a future year.

DPW has been working with the Town Administrator's Office and Woodard & Curran to complete the construction of the Five Corners Sewer Project (Phase I). Following the execution of the Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) with the Town of Mansfield to secure sewer treatment capacity in the regional wastewater treatment plant we have been coordinating the design of the force main with the Town of Mansfield. Construction on Phase 1 began in June 2016 and was completed in August 2016. Sewer flow to Mansfield began on June 13, 2017. Final paving of the Mansfield portion of the project was completed in August 2017. Planning for the second phase of the project is ongoing with anticipated construction in 2019.

DPW has been working with Woodard & Curran to advance the Queset Sewer District project. Design, permitting, and easement acquisition has been completed and the project was bid in August 2017. A contract has been awarded to A.J. Virgilio Construction for \$2.6 million. The Queset Project is expected to be under construction in the spring of 2018.

In June 2017, Easton was awarded a \$127,456 Green Communities Grant for the replacement of Energy Star refrigerators and freezers, a new hot water heater at Fire Station #1, and a new boiler at Fire Station #3. This is the fourth Green Communities Grant that the Town has received. The appliance replacements were completed in October. It is anticipated that the remaining work will be completed in the spring of 2018.

The DPW applied for and received a \$54,000 grant through the Massachusetts Office on Disability for the construction of handicap accessible ramps at Frothingham Hall. The Town received notice of the award on May 30th with a June 30th deadline to submit all invoices. The Town was able to procure the necessary materials prior to the June 30th deadline and construction of the ramps was completed by DPW forces in October.

The DPW began working with Dore and Whittier Architects to complete the schematic design of renovations for the administrative areas of the DPW building to provide functional offices, meeting/training space, and accessible bathroom areas. Construction began in November on the project. The project is expected to be completed in the spring of 2018.

The Water Division has been working with Environmental Partners Group to design a replacement for Well No. 4. To date, the production well has been installed and the new well has been permitted through the Department of Environmental Protection. The construction of the pump station building is scheduled to be out to bid in the winter of 2018.

As part of the FHWA new Retroreflectivity regulations, the Highway Division replaced 145 signs, including all regulatory speed limit signs.

Easton was awarded a \$450,000 grant for the replacement of the South Street Culvert on March 29th at a ceremony at the State House. The DPW applied for the grant through the MassDOT Small Bridge Program in October 2016 following the partial collapse and closure of the South Street culvert in May of 2016. The grant will be used for the design and construction of a replacement structure. The DPW has hired Gill Engineering to begin the design and permitting. Survey and borings have been completed and the design is currently at the 25% level. Permitting and construction is anticipated for calendar year 2018.

The Buildings and Grounds Division performed the following tasks in 2017:

- Completed 1,662 building related work orders
 - HVAC – 411 School/139 Town
 - Electrical – 442 School/312 Town
 - Craftsman – 129 School/229 Town
- Grounds work
 - 1,124 hours for School athletic fields
 - 941 hours for School grounds
 - 418 hours for Town fields
 - 1,308 hours for Town grounds, cemeteries, and playgrounds
- Tree work
 - Trees trimmed - 167
 - Trees removed - 242
- Completed in-house fire alarm testing in all schools
- Built new office at Frothingham Hall
- Completed renovations at Fire Stations #1 and #3
- Assisted in the construction of Aly's Park
- Assisted in the installation of new stadium lights at Oliver Ames
- Constructed new softball dugouts at Oliver Ames
- Completed renovations and re-roofing of shed at the Middle School
- Completed the build out of new offices for the Assistant Town Administrator and Administrative Assistant
- Installed new heating system at school WWTP
- Installed new irrigation well at Parkview School

The Highway Division performed the following tasks in 2017:

- Performed roadway pothole patching
- Cleaned and inspected drainage outfalls and culverts
- Conducted spring and fall road sweeping
- Repainted stop lines and crosswalks
- Rebuilt 14 catch basins and manholes
- Cleaned 184 catch basins
- Performed roadside flail mowing

Some of the other projects that the DPW has been involved with this year include:

- Queset Commons development
- Landfill monitoring and flare operation
- Sewer permitting and inspections
- Subdivision and site plan reviews
- Depot Street Fire Station septic design
- Scanning and indexing plans from DPW, Water, and Planning
- Updating Street Opening By-Law and Regulations
- Stormwater Phase II permit compliance
- Design of School athletic field expansion

- Environmental, Health and Safety Program review for DPW facilities
- Traffic Safety Committee review and technical support

I would like to thank all of the employees of the Department of Public Works for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. In addition, I would like to thank the staff of the Administration Division, Jan Jacobson (retired), Nancy McSweeney, Leon Scott, and Greg Swan, as well as Water Operations Manager Jack Marsh for their support during the year. I would also like to recognize the hard work of all of the division supervisors, John Fresh (retired), Josh Ford, Todd Texeira, and Jay Conceison.

Finally, I would like to thank Jan Jacobson and John Fresh, who both retired this year for their service to the DPW. As the Office Assistant for the DPW Jan served the town for 30 years and as Water System Supervisor, John Fresh served for 38 years. I congratulate them and wish them both long and healthy retirements. I would also like to welcome the department's newest employees, Nancy McSweeney, Office Assistant, who started in July, and Eric McSherry, Special Equipment Operator, who started in October.

David J. Field, P.E.
 Director of Public Works/Town Engineer
dfield@easton.ma.us
 (508) 230-0800

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN OF EASTON WATER DIVISION

MISSION STATEMENT

The Easton Water Division is dedicated to providing, protecting and preserving today's water supplies for tomorrow's consumers. Our commitment is to supply quality water that complies with all State & Federal standards, provide education and excellent customer service, and to be the leaders of our profession.

I respectfully submit the following report and pumping record for the year 2017.

Month	Gallons	Month	Gallons
January	41,785,000	July	74,469,000
February	36,707,000	August	83,496,000
March	41,389,000	September	66,675,000
April	48,603,000	October	54,649,000
May	51,271,000	November	41,196,000
June	65,973,000	December	42,935,000
		Total Pumped	649,148,000

The greatest amount pumped in one day was 3,775,000 gallons on August 11, 2017.

The Water Division responded to 2347 service and emergency calls

Connected 43 new services for a total of 7,484 active services

Replaced 513 meters

Renewed 18 services

Repaired 12 service leaks

Repaired 17 broken water mains

3 – 4" main, 1 – 6" mains, 11 – 8" mains, 2 – 10" mains

Repaired 5 fire hydrants

Replaced 5 fire hydrants

Performed routine maintenance on 290 hydrants

In 2017, new subdivisions and water main improvements added to our system:

220' of 4" water main

540' of 6" water main

4,555' of 8" water main

12 new fire hydrants

34 new valves

We now have a total of 166.4 miles of water mains 1,441 hydrants and 3,383 street valves in our system.

The Water Division read 89,630 meters during the past year. All reading data is analyzed to help meet state regulations and also used as a tool to help notify customers of potential leaks within their plumbing systems. We processed 30,472 routine water bills, 308 property transfer bills and 496 miscellaneous bills.

This completed the twenty- eighth (28th) year of our Backflow Prevention Program. Since 1989, we have conducted 1446 surveys of facilities to ensure appropriate backflow prevention devices. This year 42 commercial buildings and 0 municipal buildings were surveyed. We have 373 testable devices in the system, 204 double check valve assemblies and 169 reduced pressure zone backflow preventers. This year 513 backflow prevention device tests were performed.

In order to meet the requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, we have taken the following samples for analysis:

515	Bacteriological
16	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)
52	Manganese
7	Nitrate
2	Routine chemical
9	Secondary contaminants
16	Trihalomethanes
8	Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
44	Iron

Our 50 kilowatt (kW) Solar Photovoltaic Project located at Pumping Station #2 has now been up and running for a little over 7 years. This year we have produced 55,390 kilowatt hours (kWh). Since the system was commissioned in September of 2010 we have generated a total of 354,195 kilowatt hours of clean energy.

We continue to survey the water system for leaks using conventional and digital correlation technology. We have completed 45 system-wide leak surveys since 1982. This program enables us to maintain low unaccounted-for water.

Water system flushing is a crucial element of maintaining our water system. We completed our 24th consecutive annual system-wide unidirectional (UDF) flushing program during the months of April and October. Unidirectional flushing is a technique that removes mineral and biological deposits in water lines by moving water through the mains at high velocity in a single direction. This program is our most effective tool in maintaining water quality and delivery of safe water to your tap.

We conducted our Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on April 22, 2017 with 560 residents participating. I would like to thank the Easton Lions Club for their continued effort in assisting in this event with the collection of televisions, computer monitors, and white goods. Our collection day for 2018 has been scheduled for Saturday, April 21st. Identity theft along with fraud is becoming an epidemic throughout the country. To raise awareness and to promote prevention, we will continue to offer document shredding to our event at no charge. Residents will be able to bring confidential documents to be destroyed onsite.

The Water Division hosted its 33rd Annual Open House on Saturday, April 29, 2017 with the highlight being the Award Ceremony of our Annual Water Conservation Poster Contest. Hundreds of posters are judged from the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. This contest could not be possible without the excellent cooperation of the Easton School System—especially, Dr. Andrew Keough, Superintendent of Schools, Achim Krasenbrink, Betty Minuskin and Kristyn Shea of the Art Department. This contest provides a perfect medium to educate the students to the value of water and the need to protect it. We look forward to our 34th Open House being held on April 28, 2018.

Environmental Partners Group, Inc., 1900 Crown Colony Drive # 402, Quincy, MA has completed the design and permitting or the replacement Well No. 4. Bids are expected to be opened in early February and construction should begin late winter/early spring. This project should be completed within 1 year of the bid award.

We continue to assist the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee in its efforts throughout the year.

I would like to congratulate John H. Fresh Jr. on his retirement. John had been employed by the Town of Easton for the past 38 years and has served as my assistant over 15 years. I cannot thank him enough for his dedication to the Town of Easton, its residents and the entire water works community. On behalf of the entire staff and the water works community I would like to wish him the best of health and happiness in his well-earned retirement.

The Water Division continues to remain leaders within the water works industry. Our employees are dedicated and committed to their jobs. As a manager, it is certainly rewarding to have employees of this caliber and I would like to personally thank all of them for their continued efforts: Shirley Tufts, Karen Gallo, Joshua Ford, Joseph Richard, Jeffery Cloonan, Michael O'Toole, Joseph Charron, Brian O'Neill, Andy Howarth and Cory Sturtevant.

"With Water Works Pride"

John J. Marsh
Operations Manager
jmarsh@easton.ma.us
508-230-0850

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee (CRAAC) was formally created in October 1987 by the adoption of Massachusetts State Legislation. Its main purpose is to educate the public about the benefits of protecting the Canoe River Aquifer. This regional committee is comprised of 15 members, three from each of the five communities the river passes through. Members are municipal officials, residents or serve on land trust boards. Among other activities, CRAAC advises municipal officials and residents on development impacts, water quality concerns, conservation practices, protective zoning by laws and other issues. It also sponsors many educational conferences and meetings. State environmental officials regard CRAAC as a model for a volunteer, regional entity.

CRAAC held six meetings during the year. The meetings are held on the first Thursday of the even numbered months and are rotated within one of the five communities of Easton, Sharon, Foxborough, Mansfield and Norton.

See the list below of dated activities:

Feb 2, 2017 Jack Marsh, Easton Water Operations Manager gave an update on Easton's Water Supply including a PowerPoint Presentation. Mr. Marsh spoke of Easton's drought stages over the last few years and spoke of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Restriction for the year 2017. Mr. Marsh also spoke of the town's SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) program, which the town started using in 1994. Mr. Marsh displayed a film taken of the Canoe River Aquifer by a drone, 150 – 190 feet above the river.

April 6, 2017- Wayne Walker, Sharon's Water Division Supervisor gave an update on Sharon's Water Supply. He spoke of the six wells in Sharon and reviewed the current water restrictions.

April 22, 2017, The Easton Conservation Commission recognized former CRAAC and Conservation Commission Member John Grant for his dedication to the community.

May 3 2017, CRAAC held their 30 Year Anniversary Celebration at the Chateau Restaurant in Norton, MA. Over 40 guests attended the event. Bill Naplitano of Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development District and Kathy Romero, Massachusetts DEP were Guest Speakers. Certificates of Appreciation were prepared for State Representative Claire Cronin and Louis Kafka for their efforts in passing a recent change to the CRAAC Legislation.

June 1, 2017, the Committee held the annual Election of Officers. Robert Worthley, Foxborough Water Superintendent provided an update on Foxborough's water supply. He spoke of their emergency declaration and their Water Management Act Permit.

July 11, 2017, Member Aaron Roth represented the committee with a booth at the Mansfield Family Fun Night, exhibiting maps and photos of the Canoe River.

August 3, 2017, Kathy Zawasky, President of the Land Preservation Society of Norton was present and spoke of the Society's activities and the properties that they own along the Canoe River.

October 5, 2017 Lou Andrews, President of the Natural Resources Trust of Mansfield gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the CRAAC Greenbelt in Mansfield. Their goals are to maintain their existing properties.

December 7, 2017 Jack Marsh, Easton Water Operations Manager gave an overview of the Easton Water Division present activities. Andrea Langhauser, Easton Assistant Planning Director/Environmental Planner provided an overview on her department's current activities

The committee expresses their appreciation for Eileen Zinni of the Town of Foxborough Water Department and member Jan Fowler for their assistance in producing our meeting minutes. The committee also expresses appreciation for Karen Gallo of the Town of Easton Water Division for her work in posting and distributing agendas and minutes and handling all phone and email inquiries as they relate to the committee.

NOTICE

THE CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE WILL MEET THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH EVEN NUMBERED MONTH AT 1:00 PM IN ONE OF THE TOWNS OF EASTON, MANSFIELD, NORTON, FOXBOROUGH, OR SHARON.

THE FOLLOWING 2018 SCHEDULE IS AS PLANNED:

THURSDAY, February 1, 2018	SHARON COMMUNITY CENTER
THURSDAY, April 5, 2018	FOXBOROUGH PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
THURSDAY, June 7, 2018	NORTON TOWN OFFICES
THURSDAY, August 2, 2018	MANSFIELD TOWN OFFICES
THURSDAY, October 4, 2018	EASTON TOWN OFFICES
THURSDAY, December 6, 2018	SHARON COMMUNITY CENTER

Present Membership

<i>Norton</i>	<i>Foxborough</i>	<i>Sharon</i>
Frances Shirley (6/30/20)	Robert W. Boette (6/30/18)	Gregory Meister (6/30/20)
Bernie Marshall (6/30/18)	Joan F. Sozio (6/30/20)	Dave Masciarelli (6/30/20)
Linda Kollett (6/30/20)	Robert Worthley (6/30/19)	
<i>Easton</i>		<i>Mansfield</i>
John H. Fresh, Jr. (6/30/19)		John Shannon (6/30/19)
Wayne P. Southworth (6/30/18)		Kurt Gaffney (6/30/19)
Janice L. Fowler (6/30/20)		Aaron Roth (6/30/20)

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen:

I respectfully submit the annual report of the Easton Fire & Rescue Department for the Year 2017.

As Chief of the Fire Department, I am pleased to report that the department continues to progress and meet the high demand for services in the community with exceptional service. Our personnel provide a high level of professionalism to the residents of Easton on every call for service.

The Department staffing levels started the year with nine firefighters per shift, the highest since 2009 when there were layoffs. In September of 2017 the department was awarded a FEMA; Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Responses (SAFER) Grant to allow for the hiring of four (4) new firefighters with the grant reimbursing the town for seventy-five percent (75%) of the cost. This grant will bring to personnel staffing levels to the highest they have ever been for the Easton Fire Department, a much needed increase to handle the demand on services.

Four (4) new firefighters were hired with the SAFER grant funding and will complete their training at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. Firefighters Mathew Allain, Steven Wood, and Christopher Brasells were hired in December, and will be in the fire academy in Stow, starting January 19, and will graduate on March 30, and firefighter Troy Selley was hired in January and will be in the Fire Academy starting February 23, and graduate on May 4. Once they complete their training, they will be assigned to a group and help to bolster the shift staffing.

The Deputy Fire Chief position was approved in the budget and the first Deputy Fire Chief in over fifteen (15) years was appointed and sworn in by Town Clerk Danielle Sicard at the November 27th Board of Selectmen's meeting. Interim Captain John Dzialo, and Interim Lieutenant Jonathan Carroll, both will serve in the interim positions until a certified civil service list is issued.

This new staffing will help to reduce the overtime necessary to cover to a minimum of eight personnel during the day shift and increase the time that there is a minimum of eight at night, which currently drops to seven personnel. The overtime budget only allows for the filling of so many open shifts, and not firefighter for firefighter. Therefore, while ten firefighters would be a benefit all the time the reality is that we are only staffing the day shift to eight, and the evening shift to seven firefighters. Staffing to a minimum of eight firefighters during the day shift has shown great dividends in increased coverage for the many multiple ambulance calls the department now receives, which has translated to a significant increase in ambulance revenues. The department staffs two Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulances during the day when the demand for service is greatest.

The ideal goal is to get our staffing levels to be able to staff two ALS ambulances 24/7 while still having a minimum of a Shift Commander and two Engines with 3 firefighters each available in town. This would require 11 firefighters per shift.

OPERATIONS

The Department responded to 3927 calls for service in 2017. To highlight some of the calls, the Department responded to 45 fire/Explosion, 324 fire/sprinkler alarm investigations, 46 were CO detector activations, 11 gas odors/leaks, 104 trees/power lines down, 2143 requests for medical assistance (257 motor vehicle accidents), with 2095 transports, 557 business assists, 115 lockouts, and other miscellaneous calls.

There were 2,095 transports with Easton ambulance transporting 1984 patients, and mutual aid ambulances transporting 111 patients to local hospitals. The department's reliance on mutual aid ambulance is 5.29 % of our total transports.

Advanced Life Support (ALS) level care for patients required during each of the transports remains high with a percentage at 64% of all calls. Staffing of the ambulance was at two (2) paramedics for 99% of the calls and the average on scene time continues to be excellent at 13 minutes. The Steward Good Samaritan Medical Center in Brockton continues to be the primary facility that the ambulance transported to, at 89% of total transports. The Brockton Hospital received 8%, and the balance of 3% of patients was dispersed among five (5) other hospitals including the trauma centers in Boston.

The compliment of fire personnel as of December 31, 2017 including SAFER grant personnel is thirty-eight (41) including the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, and Fire Prevention Captain, two retirement positions remain vacant. With full staffing there are ten (10) firefighters assigned to four (4) groups.

The Department is happy to report that there were no fatal fires in 2017. The statistics show that for the house fires in Easton in 2017 the causes were from careless handling of burning of brush, gas grill fire, lint in a dryer, and a dishwasher fire.

The following are a few highlighted responses to residential or commercial building fires or major emergencies during the year:

April 19, 2017, 366 Center Street, Deck Fire (6'x8') caused by the careless handling of burning of brush. Engine 2 utilized a 1 ¾" hose line to extinguish the fire, which was extending to the house.

June 8, 2017, Pharmasol Corporation 1 Norfolk Ave. Assembly line canister burst and caught fire, aerosol container overheated and exploded on the assembly causing a flash fire of the aerosol product, minor injuries occurred to assembly line operators. The fire self-extinguished and the patients were transported.

July 5, 2017, 147 Purchase Street, gas grill fire, upon arrival of apparatus a fire was burning on top of the LP gas container on the gas grill.

August 27, 2017, 27 Cobblestone Drive, apparatus responded to a dryer fire and found lint burning in the dryer, crews removed the dryer from the home and ventilated the smoke from the house. No fire extended beyond the dryer.

October 12, 2017, 17 Pine brook Lane apparatus responded to smoke in the building and found a dishwasher fire in one of the units.

Training and Education

Training of personnel is an ongoing process to keep firefighters proficient in their basic skills and educate them in new topics. The Department has a monthly fire-training topic that is done by all groups as well as an Emergency Medical training topic. The budget allows for sending a few members on overtime to professional development trainings or educational seminars.

Captain Michael Greene and Lieutenant Kyle Riendeau are the department fire training officers and provide a monthly training drill that all firefighters are required to participate in, as well as a continual review of skills and policies to keep firefighters proficient. Training topics covered during 2017 included Columbia Gas Presentation, Ice Safety, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) review, FF bailout training, FF Self-Rescue, Ground Ladders, Apparatus placement, Engine Operations- hose lays, Nozzle Review, long lug out hose drill, LNG Review, Solar Farm familiarity, radio procedures, drafting, and flow path managing smoke

FF/Paramedic Jeffrey Dupuis is the EMS Training Leader and provides emergency medical training to all EMTs on general EMS topics and more specific Advanced Life Support skills. Morbidity and Mortality (M&M) rounds are conducted by the Departments Medical Director, Dr. Henry Crowley every month.

Every EMT is required by the State to complete a required amount of EMS training and refresher training every two years to renew their EMT license. The department is very fortunate to have well trained and highly skilled paramedics providing EMS to the residents in town.

During the year, numerous members of the department attended and completed training conducted by the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy or other training entities. The following personnel completed the noted courses:

Fire Officer I:	Lieutenant William Fralick Firefighter Jason Healey
Fire Officer II:	Lieutenant Kyle Riendeau
Fire Instructor:	Firefighter Jason Healey
Command & Control of the May Day:	Lieutenant Kyle Riendeau
Company Officer Fundamentals of:	Firefighter Jason Healey
Transitional Fire Attack	
Incident Command System 100	FF Richard Salve III, FF Niklason, FF Sweeney
Managing Fire in 2 ½ Story Structures	FF John McCormick, FF Michael Eaton, FF Tom Baker
Company Officer Strategy and Tactics	Firefighter Jason Healey
Application of Applied Research	Lieutenant Kyle Riendeau
Community rick Reduction	Lieutenant Kyle Riendeau
EMS Coordinators Conference	Captain Evan Malone
Incident Command System; 300	Firefighter Michael Eaton
Shelter Operations	Pam Berglund
Emergency Vehicle Operator Train	Firefighter Scott Brennan
The Trainer	
Medical Response to Active Shooter	Firefighter Christopher Mills

Public Education and Fire Prevention

The Fire Department is committed to a professional Public Education Program and Fire Prevention through our Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) program, and the department has been very fortunate to have a great group of firefighters dedicated as the Departments Fire and Life Safety Educators. The members of the department including Chris Mills, Lt. Jon Carroll, FF Tom Baker, and FF John McCormick are committed to delivering fire safety education in our public schools and to our Senior Citizens.

The Department's SAFE program is in its 23rd year and is a cooperative effort with support from school administration, teachers and firefighters to deliver fire and life safety education to the students in Easton Schools. The program is a huge success in the schools and is the foundation to educating and having a fire safe generation. The program also reaches out to daycares, day camps, and other groups including girl scouts, and boy scouts.

The Senior SAFE program has been active with visits to various senior organization including the COA, Easton Housing Authority, and the other senior living housing locations at Roosevelt Circle. The Senior SAFE personnel instruct seniors on cooking safety habits, making sure they have working CO and Smoke alarms in their home, knowing how to get out in case of a fire, removing trip and fall hazards in the home, and if they use alternate heating sources how to use them safely.

As part of Annual National Campus Fire Safety Month in September, Easton Fire Department and Stonehill College collaborated with First Alert, and Campus Firewatch to launch the inaugural Town/Gown Fire Safety Community Service Project. The Easton Fire Department and Stonehill College Students during the weeks of October 21-October 28, 2017 visited residents in the Easton Mobile Home Park to install

smoke alarms and Carbon Monoxide alarms. The event raised awareness among students and community members at-large about the importance of properly equipping their residences with smoke and CO alarms.

The Department conducted a very well attended Open House in October with an estimate of 500 people attending. The Open House spearheaded by FF Tom Baker, and Admin Assistant Pam Berglund, had twenty members of the department and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members involved and participating at the open house. Firefighters Local 2790 conducted their second annual road race prior to the Open House. The Open House gives the Fire Department an opportunity to share with the public what the department does as well as an opportunity to educate our residents, young and old alike on the importance of fire and life safety. The department thanks the many businesses that donated supplies or funding to make our open house a huge success.

Fire Prevention

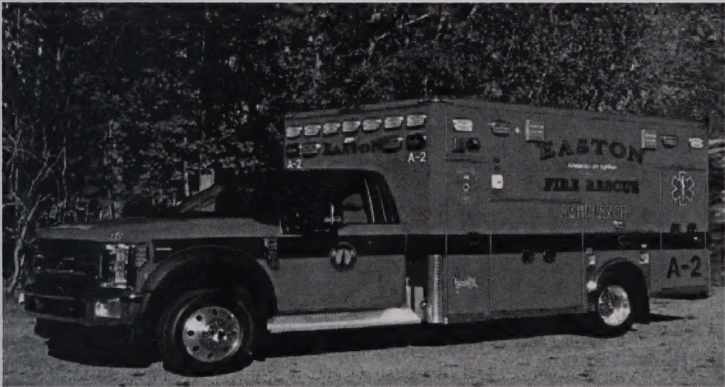
Lt. John Dzialo was appointed interim Captain in charge of Fire Prevention. Together the Deputy Chief and Fire Prevention Officer handle many aspects of the office including home inspections for smokes, and CO's, oil burners, LP gas tanks, gasoline station inspections, fireworks, cutting and welding, sprinkler and fire alarm systems, combustible and flammable storage permits, quarterly inspections of nursing homes, annual restaurant and entertainment license inspections, school inspections, and blasting.

The Fire Prevention Officer has the responsibility to review all new building plans to assure they meet the fire code and are safe for occupants and firefighters. The FPO completes multiple inspections on these new buildings for compliance and issuing of final approval for occupancy. This past year many inspections were conducted at the new Avalon apartments on Robert Drive.

All Residents are reminded that they should have a working **smoke alarm and carbon monoxide** alarm in their homes and to make sure they are working properly.

APPARATUS AND STATIONS

The Department was approved for the purchase of a new fire engine in the fiscal year 18 budget, it is presently being built and the estimated delivery is Fall of 2018. This will improve the apparatus fleet, which continues to have many mechanical issues. The department also received a new 2017 Ford F550 Horton ambulance and placed it in service in November. The ambulances continue to be used very frequently placing a lot of hours and miles on them. Currently, the department maintains three ambulances, operating two on a regular basis.



The Department passed the annual inspection by the State Office of Emergency Medical Service Ambulance Inspection Division with no issues. This is an annual requirement as part of the licensing of our service through the Department of Public Health; Office of Emergency Medical Services. The department must meet the state requirements including all documentation, equipment, and vehicle requirements. The department was once again renewed in 2017 for operating three ambulances and an Advanced Life Support Engine, all at the paramedic level.

All apparatus receive regular routine service based on their hourly usage, and all the fire pumps are tested and certified each year as part of regular maintenance. All department ladders including the aerial are tested and certified for continued use, any deficiencies get corrected in a timely manner. Department hose is tested to the required standard for firefighting hose and needs to be completed yearly.

The stations are in need of continual care and upgrades. Station 2 our oldest station is planned to have an addition and renovation done in the near future as part of the Queset Project mitigation. Station 1 located on Lothrop Street is in need of both interior cosmetic and significant envelope work, as well as repairs to spauling concrete on the apron, continuous plumbing issues, and new windows.

The Department needs to do a station location and space study and the town should look into funding a study for a new Fire and Police Facility in the coming years.

PERSONNEL

The department hired three new firefighter in February of 2017 to fill vacancies created by retirements, including Firefighter Richard Salve II who retired after eighteen (18) years on the department. FF Salve, who was also an RN, served as the Infection Control Officer for the department as well as a member of the EMS committee. FF Salve served his country in the U.S. Army, serving in Operation Enduring Freedom.

New recruits were hired in February including Richard Salve III, who is the son of retiring Richard Salve II, David Niklason, and Timothy Sweeney. These new recruits attended the 10-week recruit training program at the Massachusetts firefighting academy and graduated on August 18, 2017. All three members were assigned to work groups and began responding to emergencies.

The Department saw the retirement of two members in 2017, who began in 1987 with the opening of the Bay road Fire Station.

Firefighter Glenn Corbett retired in July 2017, FF Corbett served the department for 30 years and was also an employee for the town with the DPW and the Town Pool. FF Corbett served as the radio and computer coordinator as well as one of the department maintenance coordinators. FF Corbett was very dedicated and had a genuine desire to see the department progress and have the best service provided to the town.

Firefighter James Welsh was also hired in 1987, and in 2017 hung up his turnout coat with 30 years on the department. Jim was one of the senior firefighters on the department who helped to mold and mentor new firefighters along. Jim was always willing to help-out with building or repair things when needed. FF Welsh was known to be calm in all occasions, and reminded other firefighters when the bell rang with his usual statement "Everybody remain calm" as they went out the door.

The Department was awarded a FEMA SAFER Grant in September and recruits Steven Wood, Matthew Allain and Christopher Brasells were hired and began orientation and in house training upon their hiring in November. The three recruits began the fire academy on January 19, 2018 and will graduate on March 30, 2018.



Recruits Wood, Allain, Brasells

In November two, interim officer positions were filled until the official Civil Service list comes out from the state in 2018. Lt. John Dzialo was appointed to the Interim Captains position and will serve in the Fire Prevention Officer (FPO) position, and FF Jonathan Carroll was appointed as Interim Lieutenant and assigned on Group 2. Both Captain Dzialo and Lt Carroll were sworn in on November 27 at the Board of Selectmen's meeting.



Interim Captain John Dzialo



Interim Lieutenant Jonathan Carroll

STATISTICS

<u>Responses:</u>	<u>Total Responses:</u>	<u>3927</u>
Animal Incident	:	8
Business Assist	:	557
Box Alarm-Master/Radio	:	75
Carbon Monoxide Investigation	:	49
Death Accidental/Unattended	:	14
Fire- Brush	:	5
Fire- Chimney	:	0
Fire- Dumpster	:	1

Fire- Mulch	:	12
Fire- Other	:	27
Fire- Commercial Fire Alarm	:	65
Fire- Residential Fire alarm	:	89
Fire- Structure	:	7
Fire- Vehicle	:	7
Gas Odor/Leak/Haz.Mat.	:	39
Haz. Mat.	:	9
Health & Welfare Check	:	31
Investigation	:	215
Lockout- auto, home	:	134
Mutual Aid	:	46
Medical Emergency	:	2095
Motor Vehicle Crash	:	257
Trees/limbs/wires down	:	104
Water Problem	:	20
Misc. /other	:	61

Inspections:

Agricultural burning:	:	5
Blasting/Cutting & Welding:	:	8
Fire Alarm Installation/Repair:	:	50
Oil Burning Equipment:	:	49
Install & Store Propane:	:	41
Smoke Detectors and CO Detectors:	:	405
Tank Removal Permit:	:	18
Tank Truck Permit:	:	17
Underground Flammable Storage	:	6

Revenue: January 1- December 31, 2017

Ambulance Fees	:	\$ 1,370,790.60
Fire Inspections/Permits:	:	\$ 36,960.00
Fire Alarm Box Fees	:	\$ 30,575.00

Emergency Management

The responsibility of emergency management for the town is under the Fire Chief and one of the areas is preparing, responding, operating, and recovering from natural or man-made disasters in the town. This past year we were fortunate to not have any major storms. Days before and leading into Halloween night the town was hit with a moderate rain and wind storm and there were significant power outages in the region including Easton. The temperatures dropped for several days and there were people without heat during this time period. The Town shelter was opened at the Richardson Olmsted School and staffed by Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

The Easton Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) was officially established in June of 2017. It currently has 23 volunteers who completed three months of CERT Basic Training to become members. The basic training course consisted of disaster preparedness, fire safety and utility controls, disaster medical operations, light search and rescue operations, CERT organization, disaster psychology, and terrorism. In addition, they also earned certification in basic first aid, CPR and AED's. They participated in a final exam and shelter drill to complete the basic training process.

The team continues to train on a regular basis with the main goal of staffing and operating a shelter for the Town of Easton. While some members have taken on supervisory roles within the shelter, all are being cross-trained to handle any staffing position necessary. Pamela Berglund the Administrative Assistant to the Fire Chief/EMD has been very instrumental in coordinating and managing the CERT team training, shelter operations and organizing the CERT team.

Community events also keep the CERT members busy. They have provided first aid stations at road races, safety monitoring, and emergency preparedness displays and materials to the public at several events. The Legacy Art Festival, Paws in the Park, NRT Harvest Fair, Fire Department Open House, Easton Middle School Haunted Hallways and a Welcome Avalon Residents event are just some examples of the time these generous volunteers give to our community.



CONCLUSION

The Department provides the best service that we possibly can with the means that we have available to us. Providing the best possible customer service to each and every resident or visitor who needs our assistance is a high priority.

Mission Statement:

"The Easton Fire & Rescue Department is committed to protecting the people, property, and environment within our community. We will be responsive to the needs of our citizens by providing rapid, professional, humanitarian services essential to the health, safety, and wellbeing of the community. We will accomplish our mission through fire prevention, fire safety awareness education, fire suppression, emergency medical services, and other related emergency and non-emergency activities. We will actively participate in our community, serve as role models, and strive to effectively and efficiently utilize all of the necessary resources at our command to provide a product deemed excellent by our citizens. ALWAYS READY, PROUD TO SERVE".

I would like to extend my thanks to Pamela Berglund the Department's Administrative Assistant for her excellent work and continued support and professionalism. Pam is the interface with the public who need assistance with permits, plan reviews, inspections, burning permits and fire or EMS reports and does a great job.

On behalf of all the Easton Fire Department members I would like to extend my thanks to the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator and each of the departments and Department Heads in town for their assistance and cooperation in the delivery of our services to the town.

I extend my thanks to the members of the department for the outstanding work they do in serving the people of Easton each and every day.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin P Partridge

Kevin P Partridge
Chief of Department

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Easton Police Department presently has (34) thirty four police officers, (12) twelve public safety dispatchers, two civilian administrative assistants, one animal control officer, and (22) twenty two special police officers. Student Officer Christopher Pulcini is enrolled in the Reading police academy and is expected to graduate in April 2018. Two additional Student Officers Corey McLaughlin and Brianna Park will attend the Plymouth police academy in January 2018 and are expected to graduate in June 2018. Officer Tim McPeck was assigned as the new School Resource Officer splitting his time between the Easton public schools and the Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School. Officer Michelle Bettencourt transferred to the department in March after serving the Abington PD for three years. Officers David Wohler and Carlton Williamson graduated from the Plymouth police academy in April and successfully completed the Field Training Program. Officer Dan Perry was assigned as a full time detective to supplement our staff in the Detective Division. New Public Safety Dispatcher Robert Fitzgerald was hired to fill one full time vacancy in the Communications Division. Officer Matthew Solov resigned from the department in June to join the Drug Enforcement Administration. Officer Jeffrey Fuller retired from the police department in April after serving the Town of Easton for more than thirty years.

Our department is responsible for protecting and serving the law enforcement needs of our community. Twenty six officers are assigned to the Patrol Division which is made up of three shifts (Midnights, Days, and Evenings). There are four detectives assigned to the Detective Division. They are responsible for investigating narcotic violations, sexual assaults, robberies, breaking and entering to homes/ businesses, and several other crimes. Deputy Chief Keith Boone is the executive officer and oversees the daily operations of the department. In addition, DC Boone serves on the Marijuana Policy Advisory Committee. Officer Patrick Taylor is our court liaison and firearms licensing officer for the department.

The Southeastern Massachusetts Regional Emergency Communications Center (SEMRECC) agreement between Easton, Mansfield, Foxborough, and Norton was signed in February. The district hired Robert Verdone as its new Executive Director. Mr. Verdone is the former Assistant Emergency Management Director for the city of Chelsea. The department received grants from the State 911 Department (staffing and training), Executive Office of Public Safety & Security (pedestrian, bicycle, and crosswalk enforcement), and the Department of Justice (bullet proof vests). Sylvia Rudman from the Bristol County District Attorney's Office met with police and school officials from surrounding communities at the OAHs to present information on sexual assault investigations. We continue our partnership with the Bristol County DA's Office and the HART program which identifies high at risk repeat domestic violence offenders. Sgt. Carolyn Gurney remains our domestic violence officer and serves as our liaison to the DA's office. The department unveiled its new Facebook, Twitter, and Website in October. Chief Gary Sullivan, Deputy Chief Keith Boone, Lt. Keith Nunes, and Sgt. Darren Mangott were presented with the FBI's Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar Trilogy Award. The purpose of this leadership training is to promote the exchange of information and improve law enforcement practices through training, education, and networking.

We continue our partnership with the Metropolitan Law Enforcement Council. METROLEC is a consortium of over 43 local area police departments and law enforcement agencies trained and equipped for almost every possible contingency. As a member agency, we have immediate access to Canine Units, Computer Crime Units, Crisis Negotiations, Special Weapons and Tactics Teams, and Mobile Operations Motorcycle Unit when assistance is necessary. Chief Sullivan was recently selected as a METROLEC Executive Board Member.

2017 CRIME STATISTICS

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE

13,002

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

Murder	0
Suicides	0
Attempted Suicides	5
Rapes/ Sexual Assaults	15
Robberies	6
Assault & Battery/Weapons	29
Assault & Battery	63

PROPERTY CRIMES

Breaking & Entering Residence	32
Breaking & Entering Motor Vehicle	24
Breaking & Entering Business or building	15
Larceny of Motor Vehicles	8
Shoplifting	23
All other Larcenies	105

CUSTODIAL/ NON-CUSTODIAL ARRESTS

Total Custodial Arrests	202
Total Non-Custodial Arrests	362
Driving Under the Influence	48
Protective Custody	10

MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES

Suspected Drug Overdoses	39
Domestic Violence/Disputes	143
Mental Health Incidents	113
Disturbance	57
Disorderly Conduct	19
Noise Complaints	141
General Service	538
Missing/ Lost Persons	23
Vandalism	53
Alarms	1106

ACCIDENTS

Total Accidents	636
Fatal Accidents	0
Personal Injury Accident	148

PERMITS & CITATIONS

Traffic Citations & Offenses	2406
Pistol Permits/FID's Issued	319

Our Mission Statement:

The Easton Police Department's primary mission is to protect the town's residents and visitors by providing the highest quality of police service possible. We incorporate integrity, compassion, and professionalism within our department. Moreover, we encourage teamwork and leadership at every level

within the Police Department while simultaneously placing paramount importance on the community we serve. Our goal is to build partnerships with our citizens and community leaders to enhance the overall quality of life for everyone.

For questions, comments or concerns please contact either:

Chief Gary Sullivan Telephone: 508-230-3322
Deputy Chief Keith Boone Telephone: 508-230-3322

Email: Gsullivan@easton.ma.us
Email: Kboone@easton.ma.us

Respectfully submitted,

Gary F. Sullivan
Chief of Police

2017 ANNUAL REPORT ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT

The Animal Control Department is responsible for enforcing the State, County and local animal laws. We work closely with our local Police, the Environmental Police, the State Department of Animal Health, MSPCA, the Animal Rescue League and our local Veterinarians. We are dedicated to providing compassionate care and treatment to all animals, and to the fair and impartial enforcement of animal related law.

All dogs four months or older need a license that may be obtained at the Town Clerks Office. The license runs from January to December. The dog license is important in helping to identify the owner of a dog. All cats should wear some form of identification. Domestic pets wearing identification are able to be promptly returned to their owners. In April 2017 animals were vaccinated by Dr. Buffman. We thank him for his kindness to the citizens who bring their pets to our clinic. This year no animals were sent to the State lab for Rabies testing. The Animal Control Office received 1905 calls. General concerns and information make up the majority of calls. Nine dogs and six cats were picked up as strays. Five dogs and one cat were claimed by their owners. All dogs and cats not claimed after a ten day holding period are evaluated and placed in new homes. We would like to thank the Animal Protection Center of Southeastern Mass for caring for our stray animals. Their compassionate care of all animals is greatly appreciated. All calls concerning wildlife are answered or referred to the State Department of wildlife. In the spring many calls are received concerning possibly abandoned wildlife babies, in most cases the babies are fine, their mother is close by. Wildlife should be observed but left on their own.

We continue to pursue owners of unlicensed dogs, unleashed dogs, dog bites, and nuisance complaints we help to protect our residents from intimidation and injury from animals. We help to protect the animals from health hazards, abuse, neglect and inhumane treatment according to the laws. It is important for dog owners in Easton to pick up after their dogs.

The Animal Control Department can be reached by calling 508-230-3353 or 508-230-3322.

I would like to thank the following for their cooperation and support throughout the year; The Police Chief and his department, the Dispatchers, The Fire Chief and his department, Public Works Director and his men, Town Clerk's Office, Town Administrator's Office, the Board of Selectmen, and the Board of Health. A special Thanks to the Executive Assistant and the Administrative Assistant of the Easton Police. Thank you to the residents of Easton for being great pet owners it is a pleasure to work for you.

Respectfully submitted,
Jordan Holbrook
Animal Control Officer
jholbrook@easton.ma.us
(508) 230-3353

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANIMAL INSPECTOR

The Animal Inspector is the officer in the field for the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Division of Regulatory and Biosecurity Services, the State Department of Public Health, the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, the Environmental Police and our local Board of Health.

A Rabies Clinic was held in April 2017. We would like to thank Dr. Ronald Buffman for helping us by volunteering his service to the Town. We very much appreciate his kindness to the residents of Easton and their pets.

In November and December a partial inspection was done at premises that have farm animals. 55 horses, 17 goats, 327 chickens, 20 sheep, 1 swine, 8 cows, 6 turkeys, 1 llama, 18 ducks, 2 rabbits and 7 waterfowl were inspected. All were found to be in good condition and sanitary conditions. Animal owners were advised of manure regulations. Calls concerning wildlife sightings have increased with more seen in backyards and roadways. 25 calls regarding coyotes in yards. Small dogs are easy targets for coyotes, they need to be accompanied by an adult when going outside. It's very important to not leave pet food outside or in open garages. Make sure rubbish containers are covered. Wildlife are survivors in the wild but if they find an easy accessible food source available they will keep coming back to the area. With the growing chicken keeping as pets we are seeing more wildlife come into yards and help themselves. Problem wildlife cannot be relocated, moving wildlife from one area to another could spread disease, and is against State and Federal Law. The Town of Easton requires all dog owners to pick up after their dogs. We had 21 reports of animal bites received in our office, 13 animals were placed under quarantine.

We check on the handling of domestic pets and domestic livestock according to State laws. We investigate all animal bites and encounters with wildlife. We educate the public on issues of animal diseases. We work closely with the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty of Animals, Environmental Police and our local veterinarians. We can be reaching by calling 508-230-3353 or 508-230-3322 or the Board of Health at 508-230-0621. It is a pleasure to work in the Town of Easton. We would like to remind pet owners to pick up after their dogs, pet waste should be picked up on public walkways and Conservation land. We want to thank the Board of Health, Town Clerk's Office, Department of Public Works, Police and Fire Department; your help throughout the year is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Jordan Holbrook
Easton Animal Inspector
jholbrook@easton.ma.us
(508) 230-3353

**TOWN OF EASTON
2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
INSPECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

I hereby submit to you the annual report of the Office of the Inspector of Buildings and Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Single Family Dwellings (attached, unattached)	15
Multiple Family Dwellings (units)	0
Additions – Residential	11
Alterations – Residential	370
New Non-Residential	18
Additions Non-Residential	6
Alterations Non-Residential	88
Demolished Buildings	15
Signs	48
Swimming Pools	17
Roofs	137
Siding	39
Replacement Windows/Doors	105
Temporary Tents	20
Wood Stoves	14
Trench Permits	31
Foundations	18
Certificate of Inspections	107
Certificate of Occupancy	272

TOTALS

Total Cost of Construction:	\$47,412,216
Total Building Fees Collected:	\$243,776
Total Number of Daily Building Inspections:	2657
Total Wiring Fees Collected:	\$125,949
Total No. of Wiring Permits Issued:	706
Total Gas Fees Collected:	\$19,995
Total No. of Gas Permits Issued:	298
Total Plumbing Fees Collected:	\$43,155
Total No. of Plumbing Permits Issued:	341
Total Mechanical /Sheet Metal Fees Collected:	\$73,393
Total No. of Mechanical/Sheet Metal Permits Issued:	117
Total Misc. Fees Collected:	\$11,055
(Trench, Wood Stoves, Cert. of Inspections, Signs, etc.)	
Total No. of Misc. Permits Issued:	113

Total Fees Collected for Cal Yr. 2017:

\$517,323

D. Mark Trivett	C.B.O., Inspector of Buildings, Zoning Enforcement Officer	mtrivett@easton.ma.us
Paul DeBaggis	Local Inspector, Zoning Enforcement Officer	pdebaggis@easton.ma.us
Kevin S. Greiner	Local Inspector and Electrical Inspector	kgreiner@easton.ma.us
Kit Minsky	Executive Assistant	kminsky@easton.ma.us
Kevin Nelson	Alternate Plumbing and Gas Inspector	
Arthur Pedini, Jr.	Alternate Electrical Inspector	

Office Hours

Monday:	8:30 am – 7:30 pm
Tuesday:	8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Wednesday:	8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Thursday:	8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Friday:	8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Responsibilities:

- Provide highest level of service to protect and support residents and those doing business in Easton through effective enforcement of State Building Codes and Town By-Laws.
- Perform plan reviews and issue permits for building, plumbing, gas, electrical, roofing, siding, replacement windows, pools, signs, wood stoves, HVAC systems, fire protection systems, trenches and demolition work.
- Provide prompt, fair and accurate inspections related to each permit.
- Issue certificates of occupancy upon completion of a project.
- Inspect and certify buildings, businesses and occupancies related to annual licensing and code requirements.
- Investigate complaints and zoning violations. Determine zoning compliance.

There were 15 building permits approved for new single-family dwellings (attached and unattached) in 2017. There were no building permits issued for new multi-family dwelling units. There were 381 building permits issued for residential additions and alterations. Included in the 370 residential alterations were 25 roof mounted photovoltaic (solar) residential installations. There were two non-residential photovoltaic installations which included the installation of 1056 modules on a rooftop photovoltaic to generate 417 KW of power at the Southeastern Regional Vocational High School. 281 permits for Windows/Doors, Siding, and Roofing were issued in 2017. The total estimated cost of residential construction in 2017 was \$19,069,165. Estimated cost of non-residential construction in 2017 was \$28,343,051.

The Inspector of Buildings issued 107 Certificates of Inspection and 272 Certificates of Use and Occupancy, including Temporary C.O.'s The Inspectional Services Staff performed 6,104 daily inspections and 12 emergency inspections.

The Inspectional Services Department collected fees in the amount of \$517,323 in the year 2017.

The Department continued to develop and improve the online permitting program in order to facilitate and expedite the permitting process for contractors, design professionals, business owners and Easton residents.

Again I would like to thank a dedicated and talented staff and all Town Departments for their assistance and support throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Mark Trivett, CBO
Inspector of Buildings
Zoning Enforcement Officer

Telephone: (508) 230-0581
Fax: (508) 230-0629

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Overview

The Department of Planning & Community Development (DPCD) is charged with serving all Easton residents by ensuring growth and development occurs in a way that preserves Easton's historic and environmental resources, creates housing options for Easton residents at all income levels, enhances agricultural and recreational opportunities and provides safe and efficient transportation options and economic vitality. In that role, Staff is responsible for working with various boards to develop strategic and working plans to achieve specific defined goals.

The department is responsible for processing permits reviewed by the Planning & Zoning Board, Historical Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and Conservation Commission, and leads the long-range planning efforts of the Town. The Department provides Staff support to the Planning & Zoning Board, Conservation Commission, Affordable Housing Trust, Community Preservation Committee, Historical Commission, Agricultural Commission, Economic Development Council, Zoning Board of Appeals and other town boards and committees as needed.

In February the Department welcomed Andrea Langhauser as the new Assistant Planning Director/Environmental Planner and Mary Guiney as the new Principal Clerk. Both have proven to be huge assets to the Department.

Other Projects & Activities:

The department continued its work coordinating implementation activities related to Envision Easton, the Town's comprehensive Master Plan. In 2017, Staff communicated with department heads, Board and Committee chairs, and community organizations charged with taking a lead on the Plan's action. The department tracked progress on implementation activities and kept the public aware of them through social media and the department website. ..

Staff participated in regular meetings with King Builders to ensure and facilitate ongoing progress of the Queset Commons development project. This included recommendations for resolution of permitting issues as well as with management of the MassWorks infrastructure grant which was awarded for pedestrian improvements at the intersection of Roosevelt Circle and Washington Street. The improvements, which were completed this past May, were required under the Developer's Agreement between the town and developer.

Supporting the Easton Historical Commission, Staff processed 3 applications through the Town's demolition review bylaw. Adopted at Annual Town Meeting in 2004, the demolition review bylaw provides an opportunity for property owners and the Commission to explore alternatives to demolishing historically significant buildings or adversely impacting the character of historic neighborhoods.

Staff also assisted the Commission in processing 4 applications for Certificates of Appropriateness for projects within the expanded Ames Local Historic District in North Easton. Adopted at Annual Town Meeting in 2010 and expanded at Annual Town Meeting in 2013, the District ensures redevelopment in this historically significant area is appropriate and sensitive to its unique historic nature.

Staff and Commission members continued working with a consultant team to survey Easton's potential historical resources, primarily in support of Easton's demolition permit review bylaw which relies on professional comprehensive documentation. Staff mailed over 400 previously completed survey and inventory forms to property owners in late 2016, inspiring more than 100 requests for historic plaques from the Historical Society to date. Staff continued to oversee CPA-funded restoration work including Oakes Ames Memorial Hall, the Ames Free Library, and the Wayside Estate (Town Offices).

Staff prepared and submitted a Massworks infrastructure grant application for undergrounding utility lines in the downtown area on Main Street. Notification was received in November from Secretary Ash's office that the town was awarded the requested grant in the amount of \$2.5m.

Envision Easton, the Town's Comprehensive Master Plan adopted in 2014, identifies the need for a variety of housing options to meet the needs of Easton's residents. Staff, working with the Planning and Zoning Board, began working on compact neighborhood zoning. This zoning would promote development of smaller homes on smaller lots in suitable locations. The zoning is anticipated to meet the needs of residents looking to downsize and stay in Easton and others looking for more moderately sized homes.

The Department assisted in the development of zoning amendments in support of the recommendations of the Marijuana Policy Advisory Committee. Depending on the Town's vote on allowing or prohibiting adult use marijuana, specific zoning amendments will need to be adopted in support of the vote.

Department Staff assisted with activities necessary to advance the sewer project for the Queset Commercial District (District). Staff also helped the Economic Development Council (EDC) coordinate a meeting with business owners to provide updates on the town's efforts to promote economic growth within the district. Additionally, Staff supported the EDC in issuing a Request for Proposals to develop an Economic Development Strategic Plan for the District. The strategic plan will include specific economic development goals, strategies and implementation measures that build on the policy and infrastructure improvements completed and underway in the District.

Department Staff applied for and the town was awarded a technical assistance grant to work with staff at the Old Colony Planning Council to develop a Site Locator Tool. Local commercial property owners use this tool to list properties available for development, lease or purchase where business owners looking to locate to or relocate within Easton can then easily find those properties. The tool allows the business owners to see the zoning district in which the property is located, and easily see what uses are allowed and the dimensional requirements for locating buildings on the property. Leon Scott, the town's GIS manager was instrumental in developing the actual application this is the site locator tool.

Department Staff continued to meet with business owners to help them open a business in Easton or expand existing business.

Staff reviewed in excess of two hundred and seventy five technical environmental reviews (275) for other town permits. Another 87 applications were reviewed specifically for the Commission. Several complex projects were reviewed by Staff and technical reports supporting findings and recommendations on those projects were provided to the Commission to aid them in their deliberations. The reviews included a cranberry bog renovation where DEP intervened on their own initiative after the Commission issued its decision.

Staff assisted in the preparation of two conservation restrictions to permanently protect 28 acres of endangered and threatened species habitat. These restrictions were required by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.

The town owns several properties which include dams. Ongoing inspections are required to ensure the ongoing safety of the dams. Staff initiated and managed the engineering service contract to prepare and submit to the Mass Dam Safety Office three (3) Dam Inspection Reports for Long Pond, Old Pond, and New Pond.

Staff worked closely with the Commission to review the local wetland regulations with the goal of correcting typos, clerical errors, conflicting statements and leave the regulations more concise and clear. The first regulatory amendments proposed would allow an applicant to request a waiver when a project is located in rare species habitat and to correct clerical errors. The Commission presently is considering the thoughtful comments offered by several residents during the public hearing held in February 2018.

Staff coordinated the update of the Open Space and Recreation Plan that was conditionally approved by the state in June 2017. This update is the first major substantial rewrite of the plan in many years. The focus of the plan is on addressing the recreation needs of all of Easton's residents and working to manage and

protect the open space lands acquired by the Town over the past forty years. The Plan's 5-year action plan provides clear steps for the town boards and committees to implement.

The Department helped ensure the Town continued meeting its Chapter 40B affordable housing obligation. With the Department's assistance, Easton's State-mandated Housing Production Plan was approved in February 2017. Keeping Easton compliant with Chapter 40B by ensuring creation of affordable housing units keeps pace with new market rate units continues to be a departmental priority.

Supporting the Affordable Housing Trust, department Staff continued work on the following initiatives:

- Advanced a small tax-title parcel on Electric Avenue through the foreclosure process and, combined with an abutting Town-owned parcel, carried out development feasibility testing. Town meeting approved using the small properties to build an affordable single-family house. After an RFP process, the Board of Selectmen conveyed the property to Habitat for Humanity, which anticipates having the house built and occupied by Spring 2019.
- After securing approval from Town Meeting, carried out development feasibility testing at the Town-owned 300 Foundry Street property. After meeting with Staff from the State's Department of Developmental Services the proposal was refined towards a project providing group housing for up to eight individuals from Easton and surrounding areas with Acquired Brain Injuries.
- The Affordable Housing Trust has committed \$180,000 in funds to match a State grant for the redevelopment of a single-family house on Poquanticut Avenue owned by the Easton Housing Authority. The Housing Authority is working with the State to bid out the work, and anticipates the project moving forward in the second half of 2018.
- Staff and Trust volunteers drafted Easton's State-mandated Housing Production Plan, which is a required component of Easton's continuing "safe harbor" with regards to unsolicited Chapter 40B proposals.
- Staff drafted and submitted the State-required annual reports including the mandatory filings for the Queset Commons 40R "Smart Growth" District and the Urban Center Housing Tax Increment Financing Agreement (TIF) report related to the Shovel Works redevelopment.

Following adoption of the Complete Streets Policy by the Board of Selectmen in 2016, Staff submitted an application for and the town received a grant award of \$36,000 to complete the Town's Prioritization Plan. This plan identifies the town's priority projects for improving safety and access for pedestrian and bicyclists. The Prioritization Plan was submitted and approved, making the town eligible to submit a grant application for projects on the list. A grant application for three projects on the Plan was submitted in September.

Staff continued to support the Agricultural Commission in its two main endeavors for 2017: The year-round Farmers Market, and the Wheaton Farm Community Gardens. Market Manager, Lesley Heyl was hired in September 2017. Her energy and enthusiasm has already had a clear impact on the vitality of the farmer's market. In 2017, 13 community garden plots were rented. The garden benefitted from the volunteer efforts of Langwater Farm, Flynn Landscaping, and the gardeners themselves to keep the garden producing well and running harmoniously.

One of the four primary goals of the 2017 Open Space Plan is to ensure local agriculture is an integral component of Easton food security. In the upcoming year the Commission will focus their efforts on addressing the four stated objectives to meet this goal: develop plans and help property owners perpetually protect farm and forest lands under private ownership; appropriately manage farm and forest lands already permanently protected as open space under the care and management of the town; promote residential gardening and farming; and develop expertise in and promote best management farming practices that ensure ongoing protection of farmlands and soils.

The application process for Appeals and Special Permits was converted to PermitEyes, the town's online permitting system, in September of this year. The transition from paper to electronic submissions has been smooth and uneventful. All application permits, with the exception of Historical Commission permits, are now automated within the Department. The Historical Commission permits are scheduled to be automated in 2018.

Staff provided documents to and discussed findings with the consultants as they completed the Operational Audit. Staff continued to work within the Department and with the various supported boards to implement many of the recommendations suggested by the audit. These include, but are not limited to, encouraging developers and applicants to meet with Staff prior to submitting project applications; coordinating Design Review Team (DRT) meetings which include representatives from the various municipal permitting agencies at various early stages of development design to provide input and recommendations to facilitate permitting; conducting joint meetings between the applicant and permitting boards (e.g. Conservation Commission and Planning & Zoning Board) where and when appropriate in order to reduce number of meetings and redundant presentations; providing a minor, or amended site plan approval process.

Department Staff continued its work administering CPA applications and overseeing grant-funded activities. The Town approved CPA funding for the following projects in 2017:

- Affordable Housing Trust programs
- Emergency repair at Oakes Ames Memorial Hall
- Parking lot improvements at the Ames Free Library
- Rehabilitate practice fields at the Oliver Ames High School
- Gazebo and tennis court rehabilitation at Frothingham Park

Planning Department Staff participated in the following professional development opportunities in 2017:

- Housing Planners/Coordinators Network meetings
- Citizen Planner Training Collaborative Conference
- American Planning Association National Planning Conference
- Northeastern Economic Development Council Annual Conference
- Smart Growth Conference
- StaffGIS training
- Massachusetts Marijuana Summit
- Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions Annual Meeting
- MSMCP (Mass Society for Mass Conservation Professionals) – present and attend monthly meetings

For general inquiries, please call 508-230-0630, or visit our website at www.easton.ma.us/departments/planning_and_community_development/index.php

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD

The Planning and Zoning Board administers, within the Town of Easton, Massachusetts General Laws Chapters 40A (The Zoning Act), Chapter 40 Section 15C (The Scenic Roads Act) and Chapter 41 (the Subdivision Control Law) of the General Laws of the Commonwealth. To that point we oversee the subdivision of land, create and review amendments to the Easton Zoning Bylaws, updates to the Master Plan and review applications for certain types of Special Permits.

In addition to administration, the Board seeks to manage the growth of the community and to promote development which integrates environmental protection and community economic goals through promoting development which preserves large tracts of open space and furthers the welfare of people and the community by creating convenient, equitable, healthful, efficient and attractive environments.

In 2017 the Planning & Zoning Board held twenty-two (22) meetings and reviewed & acted on forty-four (44) applications. These included:

- Thirteen (13) ANR
- Two (2) Definitive Subdivision Plans
- One (1) Minor Modification of Existing Site Plan
- Three (3) Modification to Existing Site Plan
- One (1) Preliminary Subdivision Plan
- Two (2) Special Permit Common Driveway
- Three (3) Special Permit Duplex/Two Family Home
- Two (2) Special Permit Estate Lot
- Nine (9) Internally Illuminated Sign
- Two (2) Special Permit Flexible Development

The Board also provided comment to the Zoning Board of Appeals on various applications for Variances and Special Permits.

The Zoning Bylaw was amended in 2016 to allow the Planning and Zoning Board the ability to grant a Flexible Development Special Permit for qualifying residential projects. The intent of the Flexible Development Special Permit is to encourage development that contributes to preservation of open space, protection of historical resources, provides better overall site planning and promotes development of affordable housing. During the past year, the Board worked with two applicants and permitted the first two Flexible Development Special Permits.

The Board continues to focus on promoting development of a variety housing types in order to meet the needs of all Easton's residents. The Board is preparing zoning amendments for presentation at Annual Town Meeting that will provide incentives for village-style development with smaller homes, affordable housing and more flexibility for those looking to stay in their homes or live with family members.

The Board welcomed Charles Malo as the new Alternate Member replacing Peter Buhl who resigned from the Board.

Further, we express our gratitude to Connor Read, Town Administrator, the Board of Selectmen, and to all other Boards and Commissions for their involvement in planning Easton's present and future.

Respectfully Submitted

Gregory Strange, Chair
Peter Deschenes, Vice Chair
Wayne Benson, Member
David Clymens, Member

Deborah Balcarek
Charles Malo, Alternate Member

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The Economic Development Council is a seven-member board appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The membership consists of (2) Board of Selectmen members, the Director of Planning and Economic Development and (4) private sector appointees preferably, but not necessarily, from financial, retail, manufacturing, commercial, and/or industrial sectors.

The Council is charged to promote the sustainable economic development of the Town of Easton; to collaboratively seek local and regional opportunities for economic growth in order to both generate employment opportunities and tax revenue; to recognize neighborhood and community concerns during the development of economic policy; to leverage existing infrastructure and facilities to the fullest extent possible while addressing weaknesses through collaboration with the public, businesses, and other governments.

Some highlights of work performed by the Council includes:

- Meetings with a consumer analytics company and land use economists to explore ways to perform a market study.
- Reviewed and measured progress on recommendations from the Economic Development Self-Assessment report prepared by the Michael Dukakis Center for Urban and Regional Policy at Northeastern University.
- Explored options for sewer connection to Brockton to support expansion at the industrial park.
- Conducted a Listening Session for businesses and land owners in the Queset Commercial District. Outreach consisted of, postcards, phone calls, in person invitations and social media campaign.
- Awarded a grant by the Old Colony Planning Council for technical assistance in designing an economic development tool to assist businesses and developers seek out sites that meets their needs.
- Created and printed a brochure promoting business opportunities in Easton.
- Strengthened our relationship with the Easton Chamber of Commerce.
- Promoted “Buy Local” and “Manufacturing Day” campaigns via social media.
- Initiated successful pre-permitting meetings for several projects.
- Contracted with McCabe Enterprises to draft a strategic plan for the Queset Commercial District.
- Met with various business owners.

The town welcomed several new businesses including:

Shino Sushi, Grill and Bar
The Beanery
IGolf, an indoor, simulated golf recreational facility
Averill Electric
Cosmetic Dentistry
Starbuck’s (within Shaw’s on Depot Street)

Several existing businesses expanded operations last year including:

MacDonald Cabinet & Countertop Distributors
Hayashi Sushi and Saki Bar
Shovel Town Brewery
Stonehill College – new welcome center

In March, Charlie McCarthy resigned from the Council. We would like to thank Charlie for his dedication and commitment to the Council. Bruce Boyer from Stonehill College filled the vacancy. Stonehill College plays a large role in the revitalization of the Queset Commercial District and we are grateful to have Mr.

Boyer represent this key stakeholder. Because of additional interest in the work of the Council, we created two alternate member positions and welcome Roy Kok and Tim McCaul to the team in that role.

Easton is a great place to do business with a low commercial tax rate, close proximity to Route 24 and Interstate- 495 and a skilled and eager workforce supported by Stonehill College, Massasoit Community College, Bridgewater State University and Southeastern Regional Technical School.

For more information about Easton and the Economic Development Council, please visit www.thinkeaston.com or www.easton.ma.us.

The Economic Development Council appreciates the support of the Board of Selectmen, the Planning Department and the Town Administrator's office. We especially thank GIS specialist, Leon Scott, who developed a site locator tool in-house.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Dottie Fulginiti, Board of Selectmen Representative/Chair
Stephanie Danielson, Director of Planning and Economic Development/Vice Chair
Kevin McIntyre, Board of Selectman Representative
Bruce Boyer
Daniel Farren
Jon Holbrook
Charlie McCarthy
Keith McLaughlin
Roy Kok, Alternate Member
Timothy McCaul, Alternate Member

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Easton Conservation Commission administers the State Wetlands Protection Act, Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40 et seq. (the Act) and the Wetlands Protection By-Law (the By-law), Chapter 227, Easton Town Code with the regulations promulgated thereunder, 310 CMR 10.00 et seq. under the Act and Chapter 503 of the Easton Town Code as to the By-Law.

The Commission also has custody and control of nearly four thousand acres of land held for conservation purposes, on behalf of the town. These management areas are open to the public for passive recreational enjoyment.

2017 was a busy year for the Commission and 2018 is shaping up to be even more so. There are several large projects the Commission is undertaking that are detailed further on in this report. The Commission would like to thank the residents in town who have taken part in providing feedback to the Commission either directly related to an application or to general Conservation business in town. Without the input and feedback from the residents in town, the Commission would not be able to function at the present level.

WETLANDS PROTECTION AND PERMITTING. Staff reviewed in excess of two hundred and seventy five technical reviews (275) for other town permits. Namely, one hundred fifty-five (155) Building Permit applications, twelve (12) Zoning Board of Appeals applications, and one hundred and ten (110) Board of Health applications. As needed, staff will do jurisdictional inspections and reviews for the Planning & Zoning Board, Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator, and Department of Public Works projects.

The Commission scheduled and held twenty-three (23) public meetings during the course of the year. The Commission conducted eighty-seven (87) public hearings and meetings to issue decisions on applications:

- 23 Orders of Conditions and Permits for Work issued
- 20 Requests for Determination of Applicability
- 1 Abbreviated Notices of Area Resource Delineation
- 27 Requests for Certificate of Compliance
- 7 Amended Orders of Conditions or Requests to Modify Approved Plans
- 2 Emergency Certifications

The majority of hearings in 2017 involved homeowners seeking to repair failing septic systems and construct new or expand existing homes, many of which were located within sensitive environmental areas including one of the two state-designated Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (Hockomock Swamp ACEC and Canoe River ACEC) or mapped habitat of threatened or endangered species. Several complex projects were heard by the Commission including: construction of an 8-lot subdivision off Center Street; four (4) commercial building sites; a new Welcome Center and Business School at Stonehill College; and a cranberry bog renovation off Prospect Street. The state Department of Environmental Protection decided to review the Commission's decision on the bog restoration because it brought up a unique issue regarding land in agricultural use. The subdivision off Center Street, known as Good Speed Estates, will set aside over 13 acres as open space due to the Planning Board's review under the Flexible Development provision of the Town of Easton Zoning Bylaw. The commission was able to work thoughtfully with all parties to achieve all the proponents' goals with the least environmental impact.

The chart below shows, by permit type, the average time between application submittal to decision for the last three years. The Commission is required to hold a hearing within 21 days of application submittal and issue a decision within 21 days of the Commission vote to close the hearing. A hearing can last one evening

or be continued depending on the level of information provided by the Applicant prior to the start of the hearing and the complexity of the project. Certificates of Compliance are often reviewed in less than the 42 days allotted because these applications require less public notification. The review time for the one Abbreviated Notice of Resource Delineation required more time because a site inspection was held during the hearing process that generated the need for more information.

Permit Type	Days to Issue 2015	Days to Issue 2016	Days to Issue 2017
Certificate of Compliance	23	32	21
Request for Determination of Applicability	25	31	31
Notice of Intent/Permit for Work	41	34	50
Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation	170	54	70

This year the Commission office investigated four new wetland violations and resolved violations at three sites favorably. Two cases from 2016 and 2017 are still outstanding. Enforcement actions taken this year primarily involved clearing of vegetation in and near wetland resources or on town-owned conservation property. It continues to be the Commission’s experience that most property owners involved in enforcement cases work cooperatively with the Commission to resolve violations. The Commission takes further action as necessary to bring owners into compliance. The primary objective of enforcement is educating property owners on the wetlands regulations that may apply to their property, restore the impacted resource area and prevent future violations.

2018 GOALS The Open Space Plan was conditionally approved by the state in June 2017 and will act as a guide for the Commission to manage and improve the existing conservation properties. In addition, the Commission seeks to improve the permitting process as recommended by the Audit Committee (the Abrahams Group report). To that end, the Commission has several goals for projects to work on throughout 2018 and beyond. Four projects are summarized below.

Review and improvement of town regulations. The Commission began review of the local wetland regulations that will remedy typos, clerical errors, conflicting statements and leave the regulations more concise and clear. It is also the desire of the commission to develop a guide for homeowners and developers in town to easily explain the main considerations of the conservation commission when projects are brought before us, when to contact the commission or our agent, Andrea Langhauser, and typical requirements the board requires of project proponents. This guide and regulatory reform project will address recommendations from the Audit Committee. The first regulatory amendments proposed would allow an applicant to request a waiver when a project is located in rare species habitat and to correct clerical errors. The Commission presently is considering the thoughtful comments offered by several residents during the public hearing held in February 2018.

Develop a plan for replacing signs on town-owned conservation land. The Commission will implement a maintenance plan to replace the signs that in various stages of disrepair. The commission has quotes in hand for replacement signs that are both long lasting and reasonably priced. As priorities are established, a timeline for replacing individual signs will be disclosed during regularly scheduled meetings.

Study ATV use on town land. The use of ATV’s on town land, while explicitly prohibited, has increased over time and several instances of ATV use on town land that resulted in damage to stone walls and wetlands have come to light. The Commission will be studying ATV use this year with the goal of seeking a range of perspectives from different user groups and developing options for managing the ATV use more effectively. It is clear that the Commission must properly communicate to residents in town the written rule and intent and we will strive to do this effectively.

Study hunting activity on town lands. The Commission has received the message, from hunting and non-hunting residents, that that allowing hunting on all town-owned land should be reconsidered. The commission will solicit commentary from residents on all sides of this topic to discuss the merits and challenges of hunting on specific properties to determine if there are some properties in town where hunting should be prohibited. As with the ATV issue, education will be part of the solution.

Associate Member Christopher Patrick continues to lead the trail improvements at the Clifford Grant town forest which is supported by a state grant award. The Commission supported the initial plans for up to two Eagle Scout projects at Flyaway Pond Management Area.

CONSERVATION LAND Two (2) conservation restrictions were accepted by the Conservation Commission and are presently being reviewed by the state. Once finalized, these Conservation Restrictions will permanently protect about 28 acres of mapped habitat for endangered species off Mill Road and Deborah Lee Lane while remaining privately owned.

PUBLIC OUTREACH The Commission's webpage, located on the Town of Easton website (<http://www.easton.ma.us>), provides useful information about the Commission including its schedule and upcoming agenda, minutes of past meetings. The site provides an overview of wetlands protection, the State and Town wetlands protection laws and regulations and access to permit request forms. Links to other related sites and informative resources are also available on the site.

The Commission may be reached via email or by phone at (508) 230-0630. Commission meetings are generally held on the first and third Monday evenings, and Tuesday evenings when there is a preceding Monday holiday. Our meeting schedule is posted on the website and the Town Offices bulletin board. All meetings are open to the public, except for Executive Sessions. Residents are encouraged to learn more about wetlands protection and why it matters by coming and observing our meetings.

Commissioners Timothy McCaul and Mark Hannigan stepped down during 2017. The Commission thank Mr. McCaul and Mr. Hannigan for their service and commitment the board and to the Town and welcomes William Humphrey and Rory Kallfelz to the board. The Commission's ability to function effectively is dependent on engaged citizen volunteers. Any resident interested in sitting on the Commission is encouraged to submit an application to the Board of Selectmen for consideration.

This is the first year that Andrea Langhauser has assisted the Conservation Commission. She was hired as the Environmental Planner/Assistant Planning Director in February 2017. She and Mary Guiney, who has served her first full year as the Principal Clerk, provide strong technical and administrative support for the Commission and the public.

The commission expresses their gratitude and appreciation for the level of engagement that Andrea has brought to her role. She has performed much of the initial discovery and interaction with applicants regarding upcoming filings to assist in making the process as clear, transparent and concise as possible. She has been on countless site visits to determine wetland boundaries, areas of interest, give feedback relating to how the state and local regulations may or may not effect a project, inspect erosion controls on active construction sites and field complaints. Her prepared reports on filings and projects in front of the board have helped expedite the review and approval process by summarizing the project, potential wetland regulations that may affect the project, and recommended courses of action the commission may decide to adopt as part of its decision.

Along these lines, the commission would like to note its effort to engage in site visits more often to better familiarize ourselves with projects that come before the board. As anyone who has served on the commission or regularly been to meetings will attest, no two projects are the same. Even though the general scope may be similar, site and project specifics dictate that no two filings are exactly alike. The commission has found that through frequent site visits we are better able to determine appropriate conditions to permit a project.

Further, we express our gratitude to the Board of Selectmen, David Colton, Town Administrator who stepped down in January, Connor Read, who was appointed Town Administrator in September after serving in an interim capacity, and all appointed and elected Boards and Commissions of the Town who have worked in conjunction with the Commission to support the protection and proper stewardship of the natural resources in the town. We are also grateful to the citizens of the Town of Easton for their cooperation and their support as we perform the duties entrusted to us.

Respectfully submitted,

Stefan Cautino, Chair
Michael Goodman, Vice Chair
Daniel Farren, Member
Rory Kallfelz, Member
William Humphrey, Member

Jonathan D. Chace, associate member
Christopher Patrick, associate member

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Town of Easton's Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is comprised of four citizens "at large" and five members selected each the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, local Housing Authority, Historical Commission and the Recreation Commission.

The Committee wishes to thank Timothy McCaul, former Conservation Commission representative, and Pat Goodman for their service on the Board. The Committee welcomed Michael Goodman as the new Conservation Commission representative and Amanda Buck Varella in the open at-large seat.

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) was signed into law in September of 2000 to provide a dedicated funding stream for the preservation of open space, historic resources and community housing. CPA was enacted to provide dedicated funding for preservation of open space, historic resources and community housing. CPA funding is provided through a local real estate tax surcharge and a statewide registry of deeds surcharge. The state funds are distributed to participating communities as matching funds in October of each year. The state match can be as much as 100% of the total amount raised by a community in the preceding fiscal year, depending upon how much revenue is collected by the state and how many communities are participating. Easton's CPA surcharge has two exemptions: the first \$100,000 of value of each residence and an exemption for property owned by lower income persons.

Between 2002 and 2007, the Commonwealth distributed six rounds of 100% state CPA matching funds to the 33 communities, including Easton, that have participated since its inception. Since 2008, the state match had decreased in part to the economic downturn, but also due to the increasing numbers of participating communities now sharing the matching funds. There are now 162 communities that have adopted the CPA. On November 27, 2017, the state CPA Trust Fund distribution for Easton was 20.3% or \$235,218, which is a higher percentage than many communities. This latest award increases Easton's total state matching funds to approximately \$7.329 million.

As of December 31, 2017 Easton's CPA reserves are as follows:

- \$-0 - in housing reserves,
- \$71,601 - in historic preservation reserves,
- \$-0 - in open space reserves,
- \$847,637 - in the annual budgeted reserve, and
- \$3,211,695 - in unreserved CPA funds.

Three separate reservations are required by the Community Preservation Act if funds are not appropriated for such purposes - a minimum of 10% must be appropriated, or set aside, for: historic preservation; community housing; and open space. The balance of CPA funds is not reserved for any particular CPA purpose, but must be spent on CPA-eligible projects. To be funded, a CPA project needs the favorable recommendation of the CPA Committee and, then, Town Meeting approval.

Annual Town Meeting in May 2017 funded five CPA projects: \$268,000 towards engineering and construction of new practice fields at the Oliver Ames High School; \$44,000 for gazebo and tennis court rehabilitation at Frothingham Park; \$200,000 for parking lot improvements at the Ames Free Library; \$200,000 for the Oakes Ames Memorial Hall Restoration Project and \$145,000 for FY18 Affordable Housing Trust programs.

The Committee meets on a monthly basis at the Town Offices and more often, as needed. Our meetings are open to the public and we encourage the public to attend. We hold one public hearing each year and report to the Town Meeting on an annual basis. We can be reached through the Easton Town Offices, 136 Elm St. Easton, MA 02356.

Respectfully submitted for the Committee James Lee, Chairperson

2017 Annual Report Easton Affordable Housing Trust

The Town of Easton Affordable Housing Trust continued to actively serve the people of Easton in 2017 through its efforts to assure the availability of housing options for residents at all income levels. Our 5-Year Action Plan clarifying and confirming the group's goals, objectives, and action items for the years ahead was adopted in late 2014 and is available on the Town website. Additionally, the Trust completed Easton's State-mandated Housing Production Plan, which was approved in February 2017 and also is available on the Town website.

The Trust advanced a small tax-title parcel on Electric Avenue through the foreclosure process and, combined with an abutting Town-owned parcel, carried out development feasibility testing. Town meeting approved using the small properties to build an affordable single-family house. After an RFP process, the Board of Selectmen conveyed the property to Habitat for Humanity, which anticipates having the house built and occupied by Spring 2019.

After securing approval from Town Meeting, the Trust carried out development feasibility testing at the Town-owned 300 Foundry Street property. Our group met with staff from the State's Department of Developmental Services to refine our proposal towards a project providing group housing for up to eight individuals from Easton and surrounding areas with Acquired Brain Injuries.

The Trust has committed \$180,000 in funds to match a State grant for the redevelopment of a single-family house on Poquanticut Avenue owned by the Easton Housing Authority. The Housing Authority is working with the State to bid out the work, and anticipates the project moving forward in the second half of 2018.

Trust staff continued monitoring and updating the Town's Subsidized Housing Inventory to preserve Easton's safe-harbor status relative to 40B proposals. With 9.72% of its units designated affordable, Easton is just short of meeting its Chapter 40B affordable housing obligations. Achieving the goal of 10% of the Town's permanent housing units being affordable to households making 80% of the Area Median Income (currently \$68,000 a year for a family of four) gives the Town "safe harbor" from unwanted developments. Keeping Easton compliant with Chapter 40B by ensuring that the creation of affordable housing units keeps pace with the creation of market rate units as the town continues to develop remains an Affordable Housing Trust priority.

Additionally, Trust staff research and file State-required annual reports including the mandatory filings for the Queset Commons 40R "Smart Growth" District and the Urban Center Housing Tax Increment Financing Agreement (TIF) report related to the Shovel Works redevelopment.

The Trust continues to offer Homebuyer Assistance grants for income-qualified first-time homebuyers to acquire a market-rate house or condominium in Easton. When resold in the future, these homes will be priced at affordable levels for moderate-income buyers, at no additional cost to the Town.

The Trust continued our outreach efforts by informing residents of affordable housing opportunities and programs, and staff assisted callers and drop-ins at the Town Offices.

Trust meetings take place roughly once every month at the Town Offices and we encourage the public to attend.

Respectfully submitted: Nikki Dostoomian, Chair; Amy Rodrigues, Clerk; David Mills; Krisanne Sheedy; Samantha Hill; James Truax; and Stephanie Alves.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS

To The Selectmen of the Town of Easton:

We, the Members of the Board of Appeals respectfully submit the following Annual Report for the Year 2017.

The responsibilities of the Board of Appeals are to hear applications filed for Special Permits, Variances and Administrative Appeals pursuant to Chapter 40A, Mass. General Laws and Comprehensive Permits pursuant to Chapter 40B, Mass. General Laws.

Twenty- five (25) petitions, comprised of thirteen (13) Special Permits, ten (10) Variances and two (2) Administrative Appeals, were received by the Board of Appeals during the year, which in conformity with the law, were duly advertised, and copies of notices were given to all Town Boards and mailed to all parties of interest as defined in §11, Chapter 40A, Mass. General Laws.

In 2017, the Board of Selectmen re-appointed Walter Mirrione to the Board of Appeals. During the Board's reorganization in July 2017, Walter Mirrione was unanimously re-elected as Chairman, Thomas Pursley was re-elected as Vice Chairman and Paul Prew was re-elected as Clerk.

	<u>Administrative Appeal</u>	<u>Comprehensive Permit</u>	<u>Special Permit</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Petitions Granted			11	5
Petitions Denied	1			2
Petitions Withdrawn/Dismissed	1		1	
Chapter 40B Modifications to Comp. Permit Granted		2		
Continued to 2018 To be Heard in 2018			1	3

In December 2017, the Easton Board of Appeals transitioned to online permitting. All petitions to the Board of Appeals will be submitted electronically and available for public view on the Town website.

The Board wishes to recognize and commend all Town Officials and personnel who provided assistance to the Board during the year.

The Board would also like to thank their Clerk, Suzanne Niego-Levy for her staff support and dedication. For assistance, contact the Board of Appeals' Office at (508) 230-0591.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Mirrione, Chairman
Thomas A. Pursley, Vice-Chairman
Paul T. Prew, Clerk
Ryan Cook
Michael Spillane
Stephen Merlin, Alternate
Ed Watson, Alternate

EASTON HOUSING AUTHORITY 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Members of the Board of Commissioners are as follows:

Dennis Sheedy – Chairman
Thomas Thibeault – Vice Chairman (Governor’s Appointee)
Pamela Widdop – Treasurer
Krisanne Sheedy – Assistant Treasurer
John Sharpe – Resident Commissioner

Four of the Commissioners are elected by the Town’s people and one member is appointed by the State’s Governor. All board members will be up for re-election in 2018.

The Easton Housing Authority is an agency that provides safe and sanitary housing for low and moderate income families. The Housing Authority operates under guidelines set out by their regulatory agencies, the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Housing Authority’s offices are located at Parker Terrace and are open to the public from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday; telephone number: (508) 238-4747, Fax: (508) 230-9694, TDD: (508) 230-9695, Email: housingauthority@eastonhousing.com

The Easton Housing Authority consists of a five-member Board of Commissioners, an Executive Director and six staff members.

The Board of Commissioners typically meet at 5:00 PM on the second Tuesday of every month at Parker Terrace, however there are occasions when the Meeting would be held on another day. Please be sure to check the posting at Town Hall.

The office staff consists of: Dawn Doyle, Housing Administrator Manager and Jane Desberg, Housing Coordinator.

The Maintenance staff consists of three full-time maintenance workers, Daniel Andrews Maintenance Supervisor, Joseph Leite and Derek House.

Elderly/handicapped Housing:

The Easton Housing Authority manages 184 units of elderly/handicapped housing located at Elise Circle & Parker Terrace.

Family Housing:

There are 10 family housing units: 7 – three-bedroom homes located at Chandler Way, a two-bedroom home located at 26 Poquanticut Avenue, a four-bedroom home located at 50 Day Street and a three-bedroom home located at 28 Barrows Street.

The Authority’s State Public Housing (elderly/handicapped & family housing) waiting lists are currently open and the income limits are as follows:

Number in Household	Income Limit
1	\$46,000
2	\$52,600
3	\$59,150
4	\$65,700
5	\$71,000
6	\$76,250

7 \$81,500
8 \$86,750

Applications for State-aided Public Housing can be obtained on line at:

<http://www.mass.gov/hed/docs/dhcd/ph/publichousingapplications/standapp.doc>

Eastonhousingauthority.net

Applications are also available at the office of the Authority at Parker Terrace. Residents of the Town of Easton receive a preference on the Housing Authority's Public Housing waiting lists. All veterans receive a preference on the waitlist.

Section 8 Housing:

HUD provides Federal funds to support the existing Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. Easton Housing Authority presently has 101 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers under lease and administers mobility Housing Choice Vouchers from other Housing Authorities whose voucher holders lease up in the area.

Other Information:

DHCD allowed a 10% budget increase in the allowable non-utility expense level within their FY 2019 budget guidelines for the Housing Authority's fiscal that began on April 1, 2018.

The Department of Housing & Community Development had approved the Easton Housing Authority's capital improvement plan.

The Robert J. Keefe Community Center at Parker Terrace continues to be the site for Old Colony Elderly Services congregate lunch program, serving hot lunches Monday through Friday for Senior Citizens, and hosts their Meals on Wheels Program. Additionally, the Authority donates the use of both the Robert J. Keefe Community Center at Parker Terrace and the Jerry Fitzgerald Community Center at Elise Circle for the use of the Council on Aging's senior center programs.

The Housing Authority had completed or are currently working on the following projects within 2017/2018:

1. Conducting installation of handicapped ramps for the Elise Circle development.
2. Conducting installation of new roofs at Parker Terrace & resided building #1
3. Update maintenance garage and salt shed at Parker Terrace
4. Installing security camera's at Chandler Way
5. Completed street light pole rewiring at Parker Terrace
6. Rise Energy audit provided all new unit and common area energy saving lighting and aerators
7. Entered into a Net Metering contract to purchase electricity credits
- 8 .Renovation study for 26 Poquanticut Avenue

The Housing Authority received the following grants:

✓ **Other Grants received**

\$9,999.00 from DHCD HILAPP Grant for the renovation study at 26 Poquanticut Avenue
\$165,000.00 High Leverage Asset Preservation Program for 26 Poquanticut Avenue
\$180,000 from the Affordable Housing Trust for 26 Poquanticut Avenue
\$243,000 (approximately) for the design & construction of handicapped ramps at Elise Circle. This project will also commence in the spring of 2018.

The Housing Authority is extremely grateful for the \$180,000.00 grant from the Town's Affordable Housing Trust to help with the renovations of Poquanticut Avenue.

Respectfully submitted: Kathleen Steiger, Executive Director

2017 Annual Report Easton Historical Commission

The Easton Historical Commission (EHC) continues in its efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect Easton's historic and archeological resources. The EHC works cooperatively with the Town's other commissions, boards, and committees to monitor and help guide any effects that development and change can bring to Easton's unique historic character. The Commission is available as a resource to any citizen for information and guidance regarding the preservation of historic properties, landscapes, and archeological sites in the Town of Easton. Our town's historic character is frequently cited as one of the leading reasons Easton consistently appears on lists of "Best Places to Live".

This year, the EHC continued its progress with the ongoing goals and activities included in Easton's historic preservation plan.

- The Commission continued to support and oversee CPA-funded work at Oakes Ames Memorial Hall, the Ames Free Library, and the Wayside Estate (Town Offices).
- Three applications related to the Town's demolition review bylaw were considered; all three properties were found not historically significant and demolition permits were issued. Adopted at Annual Town Meeting in 2004, the demolition review bylaw provides an opportunity for property owners and the Commission to explore alternatives to demolishing historically significant buildings or adversely impacting the character of historic neighborhoods.
- Four enquiries for a Certificate of Appropriateness relating to projects within the expanded Ames Local Historic District in North Easton were considered; one was for emergency repair work to rebuild a retaining wall with the same stones and was deemed not subject to review; two proposals were minor and Certificates were granted; one application was submitted for significant work and a Certificate was granted. Adopted at 2010 Annual Town Meeting and expanded at 2013 Annual Town Meeting, the Ames Local Historic District ensures redevelopment in this historically significant area is appropriate and contextual with the district's character.
- Members and Staff continued working with a consultant team to continue surveying Easton's potential historical resources, primarily in support of Easton's demolition permit review bylaw which relies on professional comprehensive documentation.
- The Commission mailed over 400 already-completed forms to property owners in late 2016; more than 100 inspired owners have requested historical house markers from the Easton Historical Society to date.
- Commission members attend and participate in several inspections, presentations, training sessions, workshops, and other Town board meetings during the year.

The EHC held the 18th Annual Preservation Achievement Awards presentation and photography contest event on January 14, 2018 at Oakes Ames Memorial Hall. The Briggs Award "in recognition of a building, site, landscape, or architectural or archeological project that is a significant part of Easton's historical integrity" was given to Kristin and Jamie Stebbins for their preservation of the circa-1778 Joseph Hayward House at 227 Foundry Street, and to Wendy Chambers and Kelly Rich for their restoration of the former McMenamy's Hamburger House building at 181 Washington Street (built circa-1893 as Smith's General Store) and the conversion of that historic building into the Beanery on Washington coffee shop. Frank Meninno received the Chaffin Award, "given to an individual who has made a significant contribution to historic preservation in the Town of Easton" for his decades of volunteerism helping to preserve the Old Colony Railroad Station and to support and lead the Easton Historical Society.

Respectfully submitted: Tim Hurley, Chair; John J. Ventresco, Vice Chair; Paul Panaiakas, Clerk; Greg Strange; Amy Spencer; Mikaela Wolfe, Alternate; Ian Graham, Alternate

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Overview

The Municipal Building Committee was established by Special Town Meeting in 1998 to serve as a building committee for all school and general government building projects valued at over \$50,000. We are charged with (1) conducting inspections of all school and general government buildings not less than once every 5 years and maintaining a list of improvements to maintain the buildings in good working order (2) assisting the DPW Director with the preparation of annual and 5-year capital improvement and maintenance plans for all school and general government buildings, and (3) meeting at least annually with the Town Administrator, Capital Planning Committee, Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, School Committee and School Planning Committee (when in service), to review the capital improvement and maintenance plans.

Committee Makeup

The Committee consists of the following appointees:

- Five members appointed by the Board of Selectmen for 3 - year terms with a minimum of two citizens possessing demonstrable experience in building design, construction and maintenance,
- Two members appointed annually by the School Committee,
- DPW Director, ex-officio (non-voting) and
- Superintendent of Schools, ex-officio (non-voting)

Karen Gilbride-Raynard serves as Secretary for the Committee.

Activities and Actions in 2017

With the completion of the Moreau Hall School roof and improvements project in 2016, no Town building projects in 2017 required Committee action. The Committee held one meeting on September 6th. At that time the Committee voted to re-organize, appointing Ken Carlson as Chair and Larry Mowatt, Vice Chair. In addition, Andrew Williams was appointed to the 524 Depot Street Master Plan Development Team representing the Committee, as required by the Team's charge adopted by the Board of Selectmen in July.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth W. Carlson, P.E.
Chair

kcarlson@woodardcurran.com
(508) 238-7195

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

The Easton Recreation Department provides diverse and equitable programs that reach out to the recreational needs of the community of Easton. The department continues to offer quality programming for adults and youth in the community with the limited funding that is available. We are appreciative of what funds the community can contribute to our programs. We are working with Anne Daley as the full time Program Director, a part time Administrative Assistant and a seven-member Recreation Commission. The Commission meets monthly to help guide and further develop the department and its programs. The Commission as well serves as a core volunteer group in support of our Program Director.

As part of the Health and Community Services Department, we continue to work closely with the Council on Aging and Veterans Services to reach a larger percentage of the Town. Sharing space in the building allows it to feel like a true Community Center. The programs and activities offered during 2017 are listed below.

Programs: Creative Writing and Craft Workshops, Flag Football, Karate, Running Club, Tennis, Girls Volleyball, March Madness Basketball, Basketball Clinics, Track and Field, Swimming Lessons, Full Day Summer Program, Wrestling, Tee Ball, Ultimate Frisbee, Babysitting Course, CPR and First Aid, Cross Country, Rock N Ropes and Outback Adventures at Maplewood, Men's Basketball, Sunday Morning Basketball, Ultimate Frisbee, Adult Line Dancing and Adult Co-Ed Volleyball.

Our events began with our Annual Egg Hunt. Eggs were scattered on the lawn of the Town Offices and collected by our largest group ever. The bunny was busy taking pictures and hopping around with the children. This is always a fun day, enjoyed by everyone!

Thanks to the North Easton Savings Bank, we were able to host a Dale and The Duds concert at Frothingham Park. This was very well attended and we hope to offer more concerts in the future.

The crowds at the Children's Races were bigger than ever. We had over 200 runners per week ages 2-12. Ribbons and freeze pops were handed out. Many thanks to the MOMS Club, Cub Scouts, Coldwell Banker, Tiny Tots Nursery School and our community service volunteers for their donation of freeze pops and their help at the races.

The town pool had another successful year. This year the pool continued to offer memberships, swimming lessons and birthday parties. This year we offered weekend swim lessons and we were open on Sundays. We plan to continue this in the future.

Edwin A. Keach Park was very busy with softball, soccer, lacrosse, football and ultimate Frisbee.

Ali's Park of Eastondale is near completion. The playground, basketball court, gazebo and the tee ball field are ready. The grass is planted, the walks are in and we are planning our 2018-opening day.

The department continues to work with the CPA Committee to identify and acquire additional open space for recreational purposes. We are thankful to the CPA Committee for their support.

The Recreation Commission is working on improving facilities, new and existing programs and upcoming events.

The department has been working hard to increase revenue and seek program sponsors and donations. Many of our programs could not take place without the kindness of volunteers and generosity of donations and sponsorships. Our 2017 sponsors were The MOMS Club, Morse Insurance, Bank of Easton, Roche Bros., North Easton Savings Bank, Maplewood Country Day Camp, Scoreboard Enterprises, Hometowne Auto Shoppe, John T. Veale DMD and Peter G. Veale DMD. We appreciate your support.

For additional information or questions, please visit www.easton.ma.us under recreation or call the office at 508-238-3084.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Benton, Chair

Tana Babbitt

Kevin Cross

Steven Gaito

Jennifer Gallagher

Charles Hammond

Meredith Keach

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

During 2017, the Council on Aging distributed over 8,000 copies of our monthly newsletter. The Council provided over 34,000 units of service in transportation, nutrition, recreation, and outreach for over 1,500 individuals.

We provided 8,027 rides on our lift-equipped shuttle vans for 161 elderly and disabled residents to a variety of local destinations including medical appointments, grocery stores, shopping malls, local hairdressers, the community building at Parker Terrace and Frothingham Hall Community Center for Council on Aging programs. We continued our cooperative agreements with the Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT) and also provided early morning and late afternoon trips with federal funding obtained through a BAT grant program.

During the year, the Council offered a number of health promotion programs. Two nurses from Pedi-Care Services, LLC provided foot care at monthly clinics. The Board of Health sponsored monthly blood pressure clinics. We were able to provide a variety of classes in our fitness program including Tai-Chi, Yoga, Senior Fitness, Sit & Get Fit and Zumba classes. These classes were supported in part with state funds from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA). Old Colony Elder Services provided over 7,500 meals in the form of hot lunches at the Keefe Community Center at Parker Terrace and meals on wheels delivered to homebound elders with the help of COA volunteers.

We were fortunate to have over fifty volunteers who logged over 3,700 hours helping us during the year. These volunteers make it possible for us to run a wide variety of programs for our older residents including Recreation Bingo, Board Games, Canasta, Cribbage, Mah Jongg, Recreational Poker, Swedish Weaving and Quilting. Volunteers also assisted elders with filing income tax returns and answering their health insurance questions. Twenty-five older homeowners participated in the Senior Tax-Relief program and provided valuable help to the town while receiving a property tax credit for their hours of service.

We are grateful to the many individuals and groups who enriched the lives of our older residents through their generous gifts of time and support. The Easton Lions Club held their annual cookout and Eye Mobile health screenings for our older residents in October at Frothingham Hall. Children, along with their families and teachers at the Easton Middle School provided wonderful gift bags for elders who attended our Holiday Program or received meals on wheels in December. The Knights of Columbus held their annual Christmas Party for our older residents. The Bristol County Sheriff's Dept., the Bristol County District Attorney's office, the Easton Police and Fire Departments and senior participants of TRIAD provided a number of programs, which promoted the safety and wellbeing of our older residents. This year a local business worked to provide gift baskets for some of our seniors who may not have otherwise received a holiday gift.

Our part-time Outreach Coordinator, Beverly Beavers, retired in the spring. The Health & Community Services Department saw this as an opportunity and expanded this position to full time. Our new full time outreach coordinator, Kathleen Gouveia, services not only our seniors but also the community as a whole. She has made home visits and arranged a variety of home care services for elders by working with Old Colony Elder Services, volunteer groups, and private homemaker agencies. She coordinated educational programs for seniors at Frothingham Hall and assisted elders in applying for fuel assistance and food stamps, which is now called S.N.A.P., the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. She is working closely with our Veterans' Service officer to ensure all our veterans are receiving the recognition and supports they so deserve.

We extend our appreciation to the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee and the residents of Easton for their support of elder services and programs. The Frothingham Memorial Hall Community Center provides a wonderful historic space for our programs and services. This year we received a grant that allowed us to improve access to this historic building with the construction of a compliant ramp system, which allows all visitors easy access to our well-used community center.

For more information on programs and services, please contact Kristin Kennedy, Director,
15 Barrows Street, North Easton, MA 02356.
Telephone: 508-238-3160; E-mail: kkennedy@easton.ma.us.

Respectfully submitted:	Marie Graca, Member	Rose Friedeborn, Member
Jean Shearing, Member	Lois Parker, Member	Francis Spillane, Member
Melinda Nelhuebel, Member	Daniel Ghardy, Member	

2017 REPORT OF

THE CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Cemetery Commission is responsible for ensuring that our town-owned cemeteries are maintained for future generations. The Commission is very concerned with the conditions of gravestones and the deterioration due to age and the New England weather. We attempt with available funds to clean, reset, straighten or replace monuments as needed.

The Easton Cemetery Commission would like to thank Fairis Bliss for his recent work in updating our cemetery records. Fairis made multiple trips to Pine Grove Cemetery and South Easton Cemetery and greatly increased the number of records available to the public. The Commission hopes to next update information for Immaculate Conception Cemetery on Canton Street.

The Friends of Borderland and the Cemetery Commission partnered to cover the expense associated with the repair and conservation of five gravestones and a footstone at William Dean Cemetery at Borderland State Park.

We would like to thank DPW employees for the job in mowing and caretaking of the town-owned cemeteries.

We would also like to express our appreciation to town officials, department heads, and Easton residents for their support throughout the year.

The Commission can be reached by calling 508-230-0581.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Hurley, Chair

Kit Minsky

Brian Joyce

REPORT OF THE OLD COLONY PLANNING COUNCIL

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town of Easton.

As your representative to the Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC), we are pleased to present this report on behalf of the Council for 2017.

The Old Colony Planning Council was established in 1967 by state statute and is authorized to prepare plans for the physical, social and economic development of the seventeen-member community region. OCPC is designated as: an Economic Development District by the U.S. Department of Commerce for the coordination of regional economic development activities; an Area Agency on Aging (AAA) by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to plan, manage and coordinate elder services in a twenty-three community service area; and, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to plan and program transportation and transit improvements for the region.

In addition to the above-designated responsibilities, the Council also assists its member municipalities with technical planning, grant application preparation and current local and regional socioeconomic information.

During the past year, the Council completed the FFY 2018-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); the 2017 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Plan; the Brockton Area Transit - Aging in Place Report; the FFY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP); and provided numerous Road Safety Audits, Intersection Analyses, and Transportation Technical Studies to the member communities. The Council also provided technical assistance to member communities under the District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) Program. The DLTA funding was used in such areas as regionalization, including aggregation of electricity, the investigation of regional water and wastewater, as well as conducting a number of land use analyses, neighborhood economic, housing production plans, community compact and transportation analyses. The Council also provided assistance to the town of Plymouth on the decommissioning of the nuclear power plant, assistance to municipalities in the development of business associations and site finders, green communities designation and provided a variety of economic development technical assistance. The Old Colony Area Agency on Aging (AAA) during the past year, with assistance and guidance from member community advisory committee members, has continued the ongoing administration of over \$1.4 million dollars of Federal and State funding for elder services. The OCPC-AAA administers and oversees funding for services like transportation, homecare, legal services, nutrition, and others to the more than 97,000 persons' age 60 and over in the region. In addition, we completed the FFY 2016 Need Assessment and FFY 2018-2022 Area Plan on Aging. The OCPC-AAA continues to advocate on behalf of older persons from throughout the region. The OCPC-AAA Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program continues its efforts, with over 1,300 visits to nursing and rest homes, investigating over 320 issues of concern from residents or families. In Addition, OCPC continues to administer the Septic Loan Program for the Towns of Avon, Cohasset, Hanson, Kingston and Stoughton. During 2017, the Council processed approximately \$142,000 in loans for both septic systems and sewer connection for the communities under the Septic Loan Program.

One delegate and one alternate member represent each member community of the Council. The Council members establish policy, develop the work program, and employ and oversee the activities of the professional staff. The Council meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the OCPC offices located at 70 School Street, Brockton, MA. In 2017, the Council elected Frank P. Staffier, of Avon as Council President; Christine Joy, of Plympton as Council Treasurer; and, Fred L. Gilmetti, of Whitman as Council Secretary. Pasquale Ciaramella serves as Executive Director of the Council.

The Council gratefully acknowledges the generous support and cooperation of its member communities and the participation and involvement of the many individuals who participate as members of committees. Special thanks are extended to the Joint Transportation Committee Chair Noreen O'Toole; Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Chair Mary Waldron; and, the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Committee Chair Anna Seery for their commitment, dedication and leadership during the past year. The Council also recognizes the work of local boards and commissions and the government agencies, public and private institutions and individuals who assisted the Council in its efforts.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanmarie Joyce, Delegate
Troy E. Garron, Delegate At Large

**2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE AMES FREE LIBRARY – EASTON'S PUBLIC LIBRARY**
Where the Community Connects

"I have no suggestions on how to improve on near perfection. All the personnel are diligent, hardworking and just plain nice wonderful helpful people.." ~Roy W. Ericson, December 2017.

The just plain nice wonderful helpful people were productive as well! Check the numerical snapshot below:

PRODUCTIVITY MEASURES	FY17
Visitors	115,620
Circulation	145,510
Program Attendees	12,589
Programs	1,087
Reference transactions	10,896
Computer use	11,528
Registered borrowers	13,693
Hours Open	2,666
Volunteer hours – non-subsidized	2,749

NOTE: Fiscal year statistics (State Aid Annual Report Information Survey).

Circulation Highlights

"I just wanted to send you a quick email letting you know how pleased I was to be able to borrow the lace blocker from the library. It was great to have this option and I appreciate how thoughtful the library staff is in finding ways beyond books to provide useful services to its patrons." ~ Debbie Neumann, June 2017.

1. An interesting overall development in library services was the increase in non-traditional items or what is now being referred to as the "Library of Things". A list of items ranging from telescopes and hotspots to knitting needles and karaoke machines remains posted on the library website at <https://amesfreelibrary.org/library-things>.
2. At the end of the fiscal year, the library was in the top ten libraries of the 73-member SAILS consortium with regard to circulation of material (7th), use of *Bookmyne* (2nd), e-books (10th), audio books (6th), e-videos (2nd) and *Overdrive* registration (5th). These are indices of library activity recorded by SAILS that do not account for the immense activity generated by programs and community group meetings.
3. 44,121 items were either loaned or borrowed from other libraries, a numerical reminder of the practical importance of consortial exchange. The consortium offered close to 4.5 million borrowable items.
4. H. O'Leary realized a long-standing institutional ambition to create a separate 'Local Authors and Presenters' collection in the Fiction room.

Programs

"Thank you for the wonderful programs you schedule! The library is a fabulous place and I love what all of you do. Thank you for all you do for the community." ~ Sheryl Savage, Stoughton, August 2017.

For Adults:

718 programs designed to meet the lifelong learning needs of adult users was offered this year. A total of 4,470 people attended these programs that ranged from regular series to single presentations.

Series:

- One-on-One-with-an-Expert continued all year with volunteer residents: J. Un began offering weekly classes on English as a Second Language; E.Hand continued with biweekly genealogy sessions; J. Brown offered monthly car repair; poets R. Berg and G. Comeaux completed a multi-session workshop on writing/editing poetry; and C. Lanphear offered weekly sessions on Adobe Photoshop.
- Expert sessions were conducted by staff as well - on Women and Finance; Android phone usage; conversion technologies; eBay selling; silver jewelry making; techniques for social media; Lynda.com; Google Drive basics; i-Pad basics and one-on-one computer lessons.
- Fiber arts continued with the Needleworker's Group; the Quilting Club and Knitting Group facilitated by K. Korona and the Beading group with D. Adduci.
- Art & Craft saw the launching of a bi-monthly Zentangle workshop with D. Adduci and monthly Coloring Club meetings with H.O'Leary.
- Foodie Group, under the able long-term leadership of B. Anderson and C. Cole, hosted hands-on workshops on Indian cooking, making fresh pasta, sushi-making and perfect pie crusts as well as creating molded chocolate for gift bags. There were talks on community gardens, food sustainability, food cooperatives and a tour of Shovel Town Brewery.
- Trip Talks arranged by L. Rubinacci featured Italy, Alaska, the French pilgrim route of Chemin de Saint Jacques; New Zealand; and Honor Flights.
- Author Talks featured author and poet Michael Keith; FBI agent Michael de la Peña; mystery writers Hank Phillippi Ryan, Hallie Ephron and Bruce De Silva; K. Symmons; poet Lucile Burt; local authors C. O'Connor, J. Walsh and T. Alexian; relationship expert Na'im Najieb; detective novelist P.K.Norton; and Kathleen Teahan.
- Writing workshops were offered for the art of journaling; getting published; a month-long special series aimed at entrepreneurs looking to market their fledgling businesses and poetry workshops.
- Monthly films were once again carefully selected and hosted by W.Brown. The 2nd annual 100-Second Film Festival was also hosted in partnership with ECAT and the Hockomock Film Club.
- TED Talks were screened weekly and followed by discussion on topics selected by H.O'Leary.
- Tech Talks included the basics of LinkedIn and Adobe Photoshop.
- Scholarly Talks featured Dan Bednarz on the post-unification ethnographics of East German intellectuals; Maria Karagianis on the refugee situation in Greece; Stonehill Professor Mbure and her students on fake news and how to recognize it; Professor John Hill on 'The Pursuit of Happiness'; and Professor James Bohn on music in Disney films.
- Personal finance talks covered a variety of pertinent topics: saving and paying for college; tax-free retirement; planning for retirement; business management; Social Security and Medicare; estate planning; and protection against identity theft.
- Health & wellbeing events included self-managed meditation meetings every week; a talk on consciously working toward happiness; a workshop on creating 'essential oils' with plant matter; monthly support group meetings for mothers and infants (Just Be – Mothers Unite); lifelong wellness through sound nutrition; and Tai Chi in the Garden over the summer and fall season.
- Book Groups continued with 10 Adult Book discussions facilitated by various Staff; 12 Mystery Book and 6 Sci-Fi Book discussions with W. Brown; and 12 Council on Aging book discussions with H. O'Leary.
- H.O.P.E., a support group for families of addicts met twice a month.
- Queset Garden Music celebrated its second successful year with a series of five musical events from May through September that attracted 100 - 300 happy attendees for almost every performance.
- One Book One Community also thrived for a second consecutive year, with the reading of three mystery authors: Hallie Ephron, Hank Phillippi Ryan and Bruce de Silva. All three authors gave talks at the library. Programs with 'mystery' elements were planned to support the theme.

Single events:

- Artist Greg Maichak presented a popular hands-on workshop on pastel painting.

- J. Root and J. Zebrowski of the Aldrich Astronomical Society offered a workshop on telescope viewing.
- Maine Master Guide, Randy Spencer, offered workshops on fly casting and fly tying.
- New Jersey artist, Laura Petrovich-Cheney, presented the art of making wooden quilts.
- A talk on creating four types of hot sauces was given by Red Sky Spice Traders.
- Kathleen Berry discussed the 'SMART' initiative for responsible gun ownership.
- Ron VillaReale recounted the story of his horseback ride across America to spotlight POW/MIA issues.
- Kevin Friend hosted a screening of his new documentary on polo, 'Sacred Ground'.
- Artists From Suburbia held a community-workshopped reading of 'Les Nuls' in the Garden.
- 'A Doggone Literary Reception' was held to celebrate author-in-residence, Kate Klise's new publication.
- Kevin Paicos had the room spellbound with his account of being a Special Forces medic in Afghanistan.
- The collation of WWII letters published as 'So We'll Meet Again' by resident E. A. Sears was presented on September 6.
- Greg Strange offered a fascinating demonstration on wood turning on September 26.
- Hayden Lizotte of Dartmouth College held a boot camp on selective admissions on September 30.
- H. O'Leary planned a successful Adult Summer Library Program that concluded with 11 prizes awarded from a total of 223 reviews by readers.

For Teens

Approximately 14 million tweens and teens are on their own after school. 132 programs were planned to attract this group into the safety of the library. 677 teens attended scheduled events while others utilized the new Teen Den.

- Easton author Alyson Larrabee hosted weekly sessions of *The Queset Society: A Teen Writing Group*.
- Teen Gamers continued to meet on Saturdays.
- Trivia Nights, Movie Nights, and 'Adulting' workshops were held periodically.
- A 'Fandom' series for teens featured *Supernatural*, *Harry Potter*, and *Doctor Who*.
- 4-H Babysitters Training Course offered three useful sessions on responsible babysitting.
- On April 1, gamer Ray Brierly held a workshop on game coding.
- On July 20, a 12-foot balloon sea serpent was jointly created under the direction of the Balloon Fairy.
- A workshop on making paper beads was held in September.
- For Halloween, A. Larrabee read from her supernatural novels for an evening of 'frightening fun'.

For Children

237 children's programs attracted 7,442 young attendees, ranging in age from infants to tweens.

- Early literacy was encouraged with age-appropriate story events held four or five times each week.
- School vacation weeks featured special programs such as Family Game Night, pop-up plays, film screenings, special crafts, STEM and LEGO sessions.
- 1,820 kids enjoyed special weekly programs in the Garden during the annual summer reading event. 102 kids signed up and completed a total of 2,080 books to help them better prepare for new Grades.
- Outreach story times were held at Easton Learning Adventures Preschool, weekly sessions at the YMCA, and Seuss readings in Easton schools.
- Outreach book clubs were held at the elementary school for grades 3 – 5.
- Author Anna Staniszewski launched her new book with a special story time at the library.
- STEAM workshops featured making slime as well as the construction of paper airplanes.
- A Button Making Party and a Royal Tea Party for small kings and queens was hosted.
- Music and movement classes were offered by Small Singers and Shakers.
- A special program for graduating 5th graders was arranged on 'Demystifying Middle School', taught by graduating 8th graders.

- Two hands-on art workshops were offered by L. Hadley, 2017 National American Miss Massachusetts.
- Take Your Child to the Library Day was celebrated on February 18 with reading and crafts.
- Thoreau Bicentennial was celebrated on April 21, with a nature scavenger hunt for the whole family.
- On August 21, Ms. Mimsy organized a highly successful Solar Eclipse Celebration for families.
- BYOD (Bring Your Own Dog) day was held on August 22 to commemorate the publication of 'Stay', a story inspired by Easton resident E. Hands and his dog Maggie.
- A Holiday Card Making program was hosted on December 3.

Technology and User Experience:

"Pat was very clear and had me up and running in a short time with the slide workshop. I was amazed at all the digital devices you have for patrons to use. It's a great service." ~ Paula Wallace, August 29, 2017.

- The installation of a large font keyboard and new Mac computer, donated by the Easton Lions, served to enhance library services for the visually impaired.
- Library photos reached a new record on Google Maps with over 80,000 views by May. In addition to library postings, a collation of "Patron Submitted Photographs" was created on the library website.
- Online access to material was enhanced with the installation of Hoopla, a web and mobile platform allowing for streaming media – books, movies, TV series and music.
- Reciprocal borrowing between three consortiums was launched in October, greatly expanding the scope of ebooks available to Easton library card holders.
- A new Voice Notification System was installed in November.
- Two handy apps were made available. Libby App, available through Apple, Google and Microsoft, simplifies the downloading of ebooks and audio books. J. Phillips created an izi.travel app that provides a mobile and web friendly guided tour of the library at <https://amesfreelibrary.org/take-tour>.

Where the community connects

"We love the library. The environment you offer gives everyone a chance to enjoy resources that they might not otherwise have accessibility to. This promotes positivity through community." ~ Jennifer Karoul, May 5, 2017

- President Barbara Beech and all the Friends of the Library met monthly to plan events, continue organizing and shelving the successful Book Sale room, and donate needed library items and services.
- The Aldrich Astronomical Society and Avery Lee Williams partnered with the library to provide residents free checkout of a powerful telescope.
- Easton residents representing various demographics met during the year to discuss long range plans for the library.
- M. Silva was a credit counselor at the second annual Credit for Life Fair organized by the North Easton Savings Bank.
- The library once again partnered in the 10th annual PJ Drive to collect pajamas for needy kids.
- The MA Board of Library Commissioners involved the library in a 'I Love My Library' campaign that resulted in heartwarming valentines from the community.
- In March, Girl Scouts from Brockton met at the library to research the history of Girls Scouts in France.
- The 5th annual Day of KindNess held on April 27, had students clearing brush around the library campus.
- OA High School volunteers also created welcome bags for first time library card-holding kids.
- Volunteers from Troop 65409 held a mentoring class for incoming middle schoolers at the library.

- L. Murphy partnered with the library to spotlight the topic of children's mental health. Special displays were installed through May and *No Letting Go* was screened prior to discussion on the topic.
- T. Hurley and U. Hiremath participated in yearlong meetings of the OAHall Strategic Planning Committee.
- Staff and Board members testified to the role of ECAT at Cable Commission hearings.
- K. Korona hosted a *World Wide Knit Day* in the Garden on June 10 with knitters from around the state. She also partnered with Days For Girls to create feminine hygiene bags.
- J. Roan and U. Hiremath attended the Positive Community Norms Conference in October.
- Through the year, proctored exams were scheduled at the library and managed by Staff.
- In coordination with the Council of Aging, library material individually selected based on patron interest, was home-delivered to Easton residents by registered volunteers.
- J. Koines offered a *Civil Conversations Group* to discuss topics in thoughtful ways.
- G. Freitas-Steidinger and the Garden Club donated large flower-filled urns to enhance library entrances.
- Rabbi Gouze of Temple Beth Emunah held a Hanukkah storytime and menorah workshop.
- The library participated in various town initiatives: Easton Family STEAM night; the NRT Spring Farm Festival; and Taste of Easton.
- The students in Stonehill Professor Jansson's class worked through the Fall term on a consulting project to devise marketing principles for both Queset House as well as Lynda.com, a library database.
- DPW, the Police and the Fire departments and Isaac's Moving Company sent in impressive vehicles for the third annual *Touch-A-Truck Day*.
- For the second year, Town and agency heads collaborated in the popular *READ2017* poster exhibit with wonderful photography by J. Phillips.
- J. Phillips also invited various town residents for a brainstorming on technology futures at the library and presented a Five Year Technology Plan.
- J. Block and D. Adduci participated in *Pathways to Your Future* day at the Middle School.
- Easton Human Rights Committee set up a peace dove art project in the Children's room.
- Staff volunteered at *My Brother's Keeper* during the holiday season.
- By the end of the year, K. Korona's fiber artists donated the following items through both creation and collection: 636 quilts, 30 chemo hats, 4 blankets, 106 neonatal caps and 48 quilted girls' hygiene bags.
- The annual *Food For Fines* week, managed by M. Silva, resulted in 142 donations for Thanksgiving.
- Free gift wrapping centers were set up to aid families looking to keep their gifts a secret.
- Detective S. Hamilton and Lt. Nunes demonstrated shooter preparedness at the library on December 1.
- Easton businessman, J. Boyajian, generously hosted Staff to a tour of his factory and gifted all with a bag of his gourmet flavored oils.
- Featured artists at the library were Ines Smrz, Monica Lawson, Eveline Johnson, Wren Barger, Beverly Carlson, Alison Whalen, Gene Jacobs, Jane Ostlund, Mary Hunter, Susan Clarke, Michelle Genereux Duprey, Linda Paolucci and Charles Lanphear. The Cultural District arranged for most exhibits.
- Local artists continued to generously donate their art to the library in perpetuity: Alison Whalen gifted library book art and Eric Lothrop donated three large scale winter scene photographs.

Facilities & Happenings

"For years I've been coming to this library and you usually had to navigate the pot holes watch your step. I was pleasantly surprised to see actual parking spaces... I was able to relax, park my car and enter the library without difficulty. So thank you!" ~ Karen Meyer, December 2017.

- Thanks to CPA funding, the long-awaited paving of the main parking lot was ably completed by Al Endriunas, with design volunteered by architect James Thomas.

- Authors and Artists-in-Residence at Queset House in 2017 were Randy Spencer (April); Laura Petrovich-Cheney (April); Lucile Burt (June); Michael Korn (June); Kate Klise (August), Kathleen Teahan and Moira Linehan (November).
- Despite a snowstorm, the library remained open from 10 am – 1 pm on January 7. It closed on February 9 and March 14 due to blizzard conditions. December 1 was closed for Staff Development.
- Inclement weather led to partial destruction of gutters and downspouts at Queset House and significant loss of trees around the campus.
- On January 17, the Teen Den was formally opened. The Girl Scouts decorated the place, bingo winners got to cut the red tape, and cake was shared by all.
- A new dishwasher was installed at Queset House in February 2017.
- The library was audited as part of the town-wide Fraud Risk Assessment in April.
- The reactively new Queset Courtyard was put to effective use by the Friends at their Mega Book Sale event on June 3, featuring popcorn and crafts in the courtyard.
- Oil to gas conversion was finally completed at Queset House.
- A coffee table was added to the media room at the main library by H.O'Leary, to encourage a 'living room' atmosphere.
- In what is becoming an annual event, the stone pillar separating the driveway, was again damaged.
- 'Ho', the remaining antique chair in the Fireplace Room, was restored.
- A pop-up tent with chairs was purchased for outreach events.
- The First Unity Church of New Bedford presented a bust of Oliver Ames II found in their basement.
- 439 patrons submitted online and written surveys to help the library develop a Long Range Plan.
- The campus was toured by Senator W. Timilty; various visitors touring with the Historical Society; former owner and benefactor of Queset House, Doug King; students from Parkview School; the Victorian Society; architectural expert J. F. O'Gorman and a group from the Glessner House in Chicago; Professor McCarron and his history students; OAHs Class of 1967; J. Nesti of the Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board.
- Mentors and mentees from the Southeast Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center continued their daily use of Queset House and its offerings.
- Senior Portraits were once again taken all through the library campus.
- Over 100 groups met at Queset including Girl Scout Troops 80558, 80580, and 62831; Boy Scout Troop 193; Ames Pond Condo Association; Savvy Women's Association; Horizons For Homeless; Good Samaritan Medical Center; the Hockomock Film Club; Leah Romig; the Sharon Book Club; Northpoint Management; District 31 Toastmasters; Easton Republican Committee; Easton Children's Museum; Lion's Club; Encounter Church; Lutheran Church; First Congregational Church of Whitman; Transformation Center; Harlow Trust; Grow Hope Foundation; MA Library Association; SAILS; MBLC; the Softball League; Smith Farm; Acorn Cooperative Board; as well as Open Houses by Representatives Cronin and O'Connell.

Budget

"I think it's a crime we are not investing as much as we could, or should, in the library...This is the type of investment in our community that we need to be making." ~ Ben Hampton, March 22, 2017(ECAT Minutes 106:45).

In FY17, the library was in full compliance with the materials expenditure requirements and open hour standards as set by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC). Easton's municipal per capita expenditure for the library was \$21.93 according to the *FY16 Financial Data* report collated by the MBLC. At 37.6%, it ranked last in the amount of income derived from the town and first among libraries deriving income from non-town sources. Private endowments, fundraising and successful grants along with town funding succeeded in creating a budget that allowed for a high level of library services to the Easton community.

Fundraising

Development Manager Marion Wingfield concluded yet another successful year of fundraising in innovative and entertaining ways.

- At the end of the fiscal year, the Annual Appeal attracted a total of \$32,523.
- Queset House and Garden were rented for intimate parties, business retreats, photo sessions and small conferences for a total revenue of \$11,750 in FY17.
- Fundraisers such as the Irish Pub at Queset House and An Evening of Pops! netted \$13,440.
- A successful grant proposal of \$125,000 from the MA Cultural Facilities Fund was approved; it is contingent on matching funding in 2018.
- The Community Preservation Grant funded \$200,000 toward the completion of a 32-car parking lot at the Main Library that also provided handicapped parking for Garden visitors.
- The Easton Cultural Council funded \$100 to launch a Zentangle group at the library and \$400 toward the Queset Garden Music series.
- Shovel Town Cultural District partnered with the library to host the 6th annual Artisans Faire and Tea which yielded \$525.50 in profits.
- The Easton Lions provided \$1,000 for Queset Garden Music and \$700 for a Science Museum pass.
- The Stonehill Fund provided \$5,000 toward library services.
- Easton Grange 196 sponsored a popular program on chocolate mania for the Foodie Group.
- W. Ames generously sponsored a series of posters, framings and original artwork for the Main Library.
- Almost \$2,000 in donations was received in memory of J. Shyne.
- The MOMS Club of Easton donated \$2,000 toward programming events for children.
- The dedicated Friends of the Library supported the library with purchases of food, programs and personal volunteer hours.

Board and Staff

"Whitney..amazes me with her knowledge of books/movies! I absolutely love everything about our library. I could spend hours in the Young Adult section playing games and reading." ~ Rachel Ericson, January 2018.

- Assistant Director, I. Dunbar, was selected to be a library Mentor by NELA.
- Head of TUX, J. Phillips, was selected to be the Technical Manager for the annual MLA Conference.
- U. Hiremath was invited to present the success of user services at Queset House in two international forums; the Next Library conference at Aarhus, Denmark (June) and at Sharjah, UAE (November).
- As of March 13, resident J. Berry became the library's overseer at food-related events, having received a ServSafe Manager certificate.
- As of July 1, H. O'Leary was promoted as Head of Reference & Adult Services.
- Ms. Mimsy left on September 14, leaving behind a 4-year tenure marked by highly successful programming and dedicated outreach. Texas will benefit from her unique skill sets. On October 1, seasoned librarian J. Block, assumed the duties of full-time Youth Services librarian.
- On November 6, W. Brown assumed the role of part-time Young Adult librarian in place of H. Hudnall.
M. Hoffman replaced W. Brown as part-time Library Technician.
- I. Dunbar and J. Phillips represented the library at Legislative Day at the State House, presenting a display on bridging digital divides.
- H. O'Leary and D. Adduci presented the art of effective displays at the SAILS Showcase on April 26.
- H. O'Leary also presented at the annual MLA Conference on the topic of reference services in small libraries.
- W. Brown was selected to attend the annual ALA Conference in Chicago as a 'Student2Staff'.

- Staff continued to update their skills attending various meetings and webinars.
- On July 1, cost of living rates were raised by 1%.
- The rich quantity and quality of library services provided to the Easton community was the direct function of a stellar Staff and volunteer Board. They worked tirelessly and with sustained passion to bring ideas to fruition and turn dreams into reality.

Respectfully submitted: Uma Hiremath, Executive Director

Library Information

Hours: Monday – Thursday 10 – 8; Friday & Saturday 10 – 5. Closed on all major national holidays.
Tel: 508-238-2000; *Email:* info@amesfreelibrary.org; *Website:* www.amesfreelibrary.org.
Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/AmesFreeLibrary>; *Twitter:* <https://twitter.com/Amesfreelibrary>;
Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/amesfreelibrary/>; *Pinterest:* <http://pinterest.com/amesfreelibrary/>;
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/amesfreelibrary>.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMES TRUST FUNDS

Following is a summary of the Ames Trust Funds held for the benefit of the schools and highways of the Town of Easton as of December 31, 2017. The total amount distributed by all three funds for 2017 was similar to the total amount distributed for 2016. Dividend income from common stocks held in the portfolios accounted for roughly fifty-five percent of the total income earned with the balance coming from interest income earned on fixed income securities and certificates of deposit.

Investment returns are still increasing, and this conservative portfolio is seeing increases. While dividend income is still a priority, The Trustees will continue to work closely with investment advisors to assure that portfolio quality remains high and that income be available for distribution, in order to meet it's goals.

	Book Value	12/31/17 Market Value	2017 Income Paid to Town
Highways Fund	\$5,520,058.88	\$7,398,798.24	\$240,000
Highways Perm. Fund	\$247,027.63	\$303,765.12	\$5,000.00
Schools Fund	\$4,661,570.70	\$6,173,999.45	\$150,000.00

Respectfully,
James S. Thomas, Trustee

2017 Annual Report
OAKES AMES MEMORIAL HALL ASSOCIATION, INC.
WWW.OAKESAMESHALL.ORG

Income:	Donors	350.00
	Friends of OAMH	7,233.00
	Rentals	<u>41,261.00</u>
	Total Income.....	48,844.00

Operating Expenses:

Salaries/Fees	Rental Agent	3,900.00
	Custodian	<u>3,448.00</u>
		7,448.00

Utilities	Heating Oil	5,976.00
	National Grid	3,012.00
	Columbia Gas	339.00
	Town of Easton- Water	127.00
	Verizon Telephone	660.00
	Waste Management	<u>1,575.00</u>
		11,689.00

Fire Safety	Town of Easton- Sprinkler Fees	688.00
	Sprinkler Inspections (4)	1,654.00
	Sprinkler repair	1,083.00
	Recharge fire extinguishers	<u>298.00</u>
		3,723.00

Insurance	Liability and Workers' Comp.	818.00
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Miscellaneous	Internet Social Media	1,193.00
	Hardware & Cleaning Supplies	684.00
	Food License	225.00
	Friends of OAMH	1,846.00
	Hall B curtains	2,400.00
	Landscaping	1,215.00
	Oil Burner Service	2,084.00
	Tree removal (15)	1,745.00
	Pest Inspection (Town)	1,188.00
	HC Bathroom- carpentry	997.00
	Plumbing	310.00
	Tax Preparation	300.00
	Other	<u>2,000.00</u>
		16,187.00
	Total Expense.....	39,865.00

Net Income <Deficit> 8,979.00

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick L. Ames, President

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD**

BRISTOL COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

38R FOREST STREET * ATTLEBORO, MA 02703

Tel: (508) 823-5253 * Fax: (508) 828-1868

ANNUAL REPORT – EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

This year marks the 58th anniversary of the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project and its services to the cities and towns of Bristol County. Our mission is to bring mosquito populations to tolerable levels using a variety of scientifically effective methodologies consistent with applicable laws. Surveillance, water management, biological and chemical controls are performed in an environmentally sensitive manner to minimize potential effects on people, wildlife and the environment. Over the years, our project has greatly reduced exposure to both Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and West Nile virus (WNV).

The Project continues to make upgrades to our pesticide application equipment, service request system and data collection. We utilize GPS guidance systems on our spray trucks enabling our technicians to effectively schedule and conduct early morning applications and document pesticide application routes. We remain committed to applying environmentally responsible larvicide and adulticide products. We do this in order to be better stewards of the environment and reduce any unwanted effect on non-target organisms. We continue our practice of arbovirus and population surveillance through trapping and sending mosquito specimens to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health for testing.

During the 2017-mosquito season, 23,187 mosquitoes were tested for the mosquito borne viruses EEE and WNV. There was one (1) isolation of EEE and no human cases in the County. Bristol County had fifteen (15) mosquito pools test positive for WNV with one (1) reported human case. There were no equine cases for EEE or WNV.

The Project continues its year round efforts to reduce mosquito breeding areas through water management and source reduction. Our goal is to remove debris, silt and vegetation from drainage ditches to improve water flow, thus eliminating standing water conducive to larval development.

During the period of January 1, 2017– December 31, 2017 the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project:

- Sprayed over 6,352 acres
- Treated 19.38 acres with *B.t.i.* in 25 locations for mosquito larvae
- Received 730 requests for spraying
- Cleared and reclaimed 2,225 feet of brush
- Mowed .5 acre of brush by machine
- Cleaned 815 feet of ditches by machine
- Treated 840 catch basins

- Additionally, an aerial larviciding was conducted over the Hockomock Swamp in Easton, MA. Approximately 1185 acres were treated with VectoBac 12AS liquid Biological Larvicide.

Throughout the year, we strive to educate the public concerning mosquito borne diseases and simple ways residents can protect themselves and help prevent breeding on their own property. We have many types of outreach programs available including speaking at public health events, radio/newspaper interviews, visiting local schools, senior centers, and creating informational handouts for distribution. Be sure to check out our website: www.mass.gov/eea/bristolcountymosquitocontrol for updates and information.

I would like to thank the town officials and residents of Easton for their continued support and cooperation. Our project is extremely proud of the work we perform and look forward to serving our

communities in the upcoming year. If there are any questions concerning the Projects efforts or objectives, please feel free to contact our office.

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Matton
Superintendent

January 8, 2018

Bristol County Mosquito Control Commissioners:

- Robert Davis, Chairman
- Gregory D. Dorrance
- Joseph Barile
- Christine A. Fagan
- Aaron G. Caswell

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EASTON CULTURAL COUNCIL

The purpose of the **Easton Cultural Council (ECC)** is to award grants based on an allocation received annually from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. The ECC's goal is to support public programs that promote education, diversity, excellence in and access to the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences. Its mission is to directly affect the residents of Easton, to achieve the greatest community benefit, and to cultivate the arts through participation and appreciation. The ECC endeavors to make cultural opportunities accessible to all segments of the population, including but not limited to, all racial and ethnic groups, individuals with disabilities, veterans, women and children. We are pleased to say that we were able to fund several programs that will enrich the lives of Easton townspeople of all ages and backgrounds.

This past granting cycle we had 11 Council Members. Our present Roster now includes: Chair - Catherine Sutton, Secretary – Melissa Foley, Treasurer – Patrick Lally, Publicity Coordinator - Pam Borbely, Education Coordinator - Juliette Coughlin, Grants Coordinator - Sarah Truax, Susan Ricciardi, Haylie Rodriguez, Jason Mohn and Michael DiPietro, and Beth Goldman Galer.

The Members awarded grants totally approximately \$7,070.

Easton Local Cultural Council 2017 Activity

During the grant cycle that took place in 2017, the Easton Cultural Council approved grants for the following projects/organizations: Easton Human Rights Committee's Unity Project, John Root's A Celebration of Song, Fuller Craft Museum's [SENSE]ation Days and Craft Inspires Series, Ames Free Library's DYEing to Wear It!, Easton Community Access Television's Hockomock Film Festival and 100-Second Film and Video Festival, James Thomas' Queset Garden Music Series, Brown Box Theatre Project's Free Summer Shakespeare, Natural Resources Trust's Harvest Fair, Hornithology Ensemble's Infinity and Beyond, Easton Middles School's Haunted Hallways, Elizabeth Hadley's Stay Unique, Stay Different Campaign, The Easton Music Parents Organization's 42nd Annual Handel's Messiah Sing, Marcia Connors' One Book, One Community, Mass Music & Arts Society's Lettuce Sing, Jubilate Chorale's Our World in Song: A Musical Journey, The Children's Museum in Easton's children's art activities at the Legacy Art Festival and Science on the Go! programs, Michael Korn's Easton Chamber Music Festival, Sharon Community Chamber Orchestra's Concert Series, The Un-Common Theatre Company's Little Shop of Horrors, Julie Brennan's Arts for Healing & Empowerment, Brockton Symphony Orchestra's Celebrating 70 Years of the BrSO, World Voices Youth Choir's Winter Festival, Doll E Daze's Building the Beloved Community, South Shore Children's Chorus' Summer Choral Intensive at Stonehill College, Easton Shovel Town Cultural District's Imperfect Art Workshops and children's entertainer at the Legacy Art Festival, and Easton Grange 196's Canning & Preserving Jams and Jellies.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Sutton, Chair

EASTON SHOVEL TOWN CULTURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT - 2017

The year 2017 has been an exciting year for the Easton Shovel Town Cultural District. In March, 2017, the Board of the Massachusetts Cultural Council ratified the District as an “official” Cultural District of the State of Massachusetts. This District will be part of the municipality of the Town of Easton and will operate under the auspices of the Planning and Development Department.

The mission of *the Easton Shovel Town Cultural District* is to create more activity for the public that is centered in Easton and to utilize all the exciting historical, cultural, and natural resources we share. Our hope is that the partnership with many business and local organizations in the area has added a small piece to the wonderful changes that are happening locally. The revitalization of our downtown area, establishment of exciting cultural activities in the area and the influx of new business has made our Town come alive.

The Easton Shovel Town Cultural District is extremely committed to our work with **Oakes Ames Memorial Hall** as a Performance and Event Center and see the building become updated to expand its continuing role in the community.

Some of our major 2017 activities:

ESTCD Art Coop/Gallery, 50 Main Street, North Easton. Opens 11-3 every weekend. Members and guest artists display and sell their work.

Our Artist on Display Program has brought art on a monthly basis to Ames Free Library, Easton Old Colony YMCA, ESTCD Art Coop/Gallery and Easton Community Access Television where an interview with featured artist is produced and aired on cable.

April 1, 2017 was our fifth annual **Artist on Display Art Show** at 50 Oliver Street, 350+ guests attended this show and was a treat with a virtual reality art program produced by Easton Community Access Television and live music by Stedfast School of Music & Art. Thanks to Doug King for allowing us to use his space.

April 22, 2017 We partnered with “**Keep Easton Beautiful**”, YMCA, and Stedfast School of Music & Arts. Local artists painted barrels which were judged for first, second and third prize and distributed around town. It was wonderful to see the community at large participating in this massive cleanup on Earth Day.

June, 25, 2017. The **Fourth Annual Legacy Art/Music/Food Fun Festival** at the Governor Oliver Ames Estate presented by ESTCD and Easton Lion’s Club. Attendees close to 2,000.

Activities included Junior Juried Art Show/Juried Artist & Artisans, Interactive Art Projects, Field Activities, Canoeing, great food from local vendors including The Farmer’s Daughter, Simpson Spring, Rosa Galeno Foods, Chino’s Restaurant, Baby’s Bone Town Barbeque.

Music provided by: Ibby Hausman, Mary Parker & Co., Bird Mansini, Roger Tinknell, Interactive Children’s Entertainer; Southeast School of Music.

This free event is a partnership which includes Avery Lee Williams Family Trust, Bank of Easton, North Easton Savings Bank, Easton Lions Club, Easton Local Cultural Council, The Children's Museum in Easton, Old Colony YMCA, Ames Free Library, Easton Historical Society, Easton Grange 196, Easton Community Access Television, Oakes Ames Memorial Hall Association, The Fieldhouse Arena, Artist Gwyn Marathas, Alleyoop Party Rentals, Dolce Cupcakes, Auntie ZaZa's fiber works, Easton Country Club and several private donors.

Special thanks to our municipal partners: Easton Town Administrator's Office, Fire Department & CERT Team, Recreation Department, Council on Aging, Health Department, and Police Department and to the Trustees of Reservations for allowing us to use their property for this event.

December 10, 2017 . Artisans Faire & Holiday Tea at Queset House.

Juried Artisans Faire, live music, raffles. Music Provided by Stedfast School of Music & Art. Tea prepared by Chef Rosa Galeno. Attendees 866

Many thanks to Bank of Easton and North Easton Savings Bank for sponsoring this event which benefits ESTCD and the Ames Free Library.

Some other fun events:

December 1, as part of Lions Festival, Free Jewelry Making Workshop at Art Coop/Gallery

September 17, Yellow Tag Sale at Gallery with raffles

100-Second Film Festival/with ECAT

September 15 & 16, 10 Minute Play Festival with Stedfast School of Music & Arts

Cross Your Heart, Release Party with Ibby Hausman at The Farmer's Daughter

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SERVICES GROUP

Moiria Rouse, Regional Administrator

The Town of Easton receives procurement and other services from the Southeastern Regional Services Group (SERSG) and has since the organization's inception in 1993. SERSG serves two cities and nineteen towns with one Regional Administrator. Annual dues of \$4,100 support these services. This amount is recovered by devoting less time to procurement and from savings in using these contracts. Other services include contract administration and annual trainings.

SERSG administered bids and created new contracts on behalf of the Town for office supplies, paper, public works supplies, water and sewer treatment chemicals, public works services, and drug and alcohol testing services.

- The new two-year office supply contract provides a 71.4% discount off non-excluded items using a standard wholesaler's catalog, and a 46.4% discount off ink and toner cartridges. In 2017 Easton saved \$81,023 off office supply purchases.
- The Town and schools also pay competitive fixed prices for paper using a SERSG contract. Easton spent \$2,928 using this contract in 2017.
- SERSG administered bids for and created 9 DPW Supply contracts for 23 items and 2 Water Treatment Chemical contracts for 3 items. The estimated value of these contracts is \$375,563.
- New DPW Service contracts will take effect on 2/1/18. There are 15 contracts for 20 services. These contracts were based on Easton's estimated need valued at \$1,691,367
- A bid for federally-required drug and alcohol testing was administered and a contract established during the year. It will remain in effect for three years and provide Easton with all necessary services.

Favorable pricing is a significant membership benefit. Additionally, every SERSG bid saves Easton many hours of skilled staff time and hundreds of dollars in bid-advertising and other costs. SERSG contract pricing is equal to or lower than state contract prices and requires less time and effort for departments to use.

In 2017 SERSG re-branded itself with a new logo. This is part of a new outreach effort to neighboring communities to invite new members. One new member joined in 2017. Our goal is to expand membership for mutual benefit.

Finally, monthly meetings continue for municipal administration, public works, and stormwater specialists to support the Town of Easton with regional collaboration.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The Town of Easton Information Technology Department provides computer and technical support and service for the Easton Town Offices, the Department of Public Works, the Water Division, the Police and Fire Departments and the School Business Office. Information Technology is responsible for 34 servers, 120 desktop computers, 39 notebook computers and 15 iPads. All sites are connected with Town owned 1GB fiber optic lines except Fire Station #2 which is connected using a secure wireless tunnel to the tower in back of Fire Station #1. All of the town departments access the Internet thru a single Verizon FiOS line with a backup Comcast Internet connection at the Town Offices.

Most of the Town's servers are virtual, utilizing the Microsoft Hyper V platform. There are 26 virtual machines running predominantly the Microsoft Windows Server 2008R2 @ 64 bit operating system. There are still 2 legacy servers running the Microsoft Windows Server 2003 32 bit operating system. All these virtual servers run on only 4 physical servers, running Microsoft Windows Server 2016, to enable memory and processor sharing. There are 5 other physical servers running either Microsoft Windows Server 2008R2 or 2012 mostly for domain controller functions. The Town's email functions are performed on a virtual Exchange 2013 server hosted locally in our Hyper V environment. Email archiving is done with Intradyn's Email Archiving & Discovery utilizing a Hyper V Linux server. Backups are performed with Veeam servers also hosted in our Hyper V environment.

There are two data centers, one at the Town Offices and the other at the Police Station. The virtual environments are split between the two data centers. Also, each data center has 2 Dell EqualLogic storage arrays which contain the volumes for all of the virtual servers. Each night the Town Offices volumes are replicated to the Police Station arrays and the Police/DPW volumes are replicated to the Town Offices arrays through Veeam. This allows the Town to have a very dynamic disaster recovery plan.

Currently we are using an integrated municipal application from a company known as SoftRight, an Accela owned company, out of Westford, Massachusetts. The Town went live with the SoftRight Payroll application On January 1 of 2009. Since that time we have migrated all of our other applications including General Ledger, Budget, Accounts Payable & Purchasing, Fixed Assets, Payroll & Personnel, Treasury Receipts, Collector's Receivables, Tax Title, Water Billing and Trash Billing.

Also the Town's I.T. department uses Utopic's Persysent Software for creating and distributing images to new and existing computer systems. Not only does this software make it faster and more efficient to roll out new systems but it will also help in disaster recovery situations if any of the town's computers become corrupted with malware. Department based software images can be created and stored in the virtual environment and then easily rolled out to any hardware platform with the correct hardware drivers.

Michael Deltano, Information Systems Manager

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

EASTON AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

The Easton Agricultural Commission is charged with promoting, preserving, encouraging, and facilitating sustainable agricultural activities within Easton. It is comprised of seven members appointed by the Board of Selectmen, with one seat vacant, and generally meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

The Agricultural Commission continues to operate the Original Easton Farmers Market year round at its Depot Street location during the growing season (mid-May through October) and at the Oakes Ames Memorial Hall during the winter months (November through mid-May). The Market is open from 10:00am to 2:00pm every Saturday. Market Manager, Lesley Heyl, was hired in September 2017. Her energy and enthusiasm has already had a clear impact on the vitality of the market. The number of visitors to the market declined from previous years but continues to support the mission of the Agricultural Commission to provide residents access to locally produced food and to promote local agriculture. An indirect benefit of local agriculture is economic; money spent on locally produced foods and goods is generally put back into the local economy. Many visitors to the winter market also patronize the retail and civic establishments in town.

In 2017, thirteen (13) gardeners rented plots at the Wheaton Farm Community Garden. Most gardeners returned from previous years and the Commission always welcomes newcomers. The garden benefitted from the volunteer efforts of Langwater Farm, Flynn Landscaping, and the gardeners themselves to keep the garden producing well and running harmoniously.

The Easton Open Space Plan was approved conditionally by the state in June 2017. Ed Hands penned on the sections on flora, fauna, and agriculture that will provide an important baseline as the town boards and committees seek to implement to the Plan's 5-year action plan. One of the four primary goals of the Plan is *to ensure local agriculture is an integral component of Easton food security.*

In the upcoming year the Commission will continue to focus on running the year-round farmer's market and implementing the Agricultural goals of the Open Space Plan. The Commission will focus their efforts on addressing these stated objectives: develop plans and help property owners perpetually protect farm and forest lands under private ownership; appropriately manage farm and forest lands already permanently protected as open space under the care and management of the town; promote residential gardening and farming; and develop expertise in and promote best management farming practices that ensure ongoing protection of farmlands and soils.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Luke, Chairman
Edmund Hands, Vice-Chairman
Katie O'Dwyer, Secretary
Sean Flynn
Rosa Galeno
Eric Silverman

2017 Annual Report of The Human Resources Board

To the Selectmen and residents of the Town of Easton

The Human Resources Board is comprised of three members who all reside in the Town of Easton. The Board meets at least one time per year to provide recommendations for the implementation and administration of the Classification Plan and Salary Plan for Non-Union employees of the Town of Easton. The Human Resources Board also reviews requests for new non-union positions and gives recommendations for the proposed job description and job classification.

The Human Resources Board met once in 2017 on May 8 in the Mary Connolly meeting room at the Easton Town Offices on Elm Street.

At the May 8, 2017 meeting, the Board approved changes to the job description for the Human Resources Coordinator/Assistant to the Town Administrator that would remove the administrative duties of the current Human Resources Coordinator/Assistant to the Town Administrator and place those administrative duties with a proposed new position of Administrative Assistant in the Town Administrator/Selectmen's Office. The Board approved the job description for the Human Resources Coordinator. The Board also approved the new job description for Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator. Lastly, the Board reviewed and approved a proposed new job description and Classification Placement for a Finance Director/Town Accountant.

For more information on the Human Resources Board and its activities, please contact John D. Curran c/o the Office of the Town Clerk

Respectfully submitted:

John D. Curran, Chair
Mahsa Khanbabai, Member
Robert MacLennan, Member

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

The Human Rights Committee's charge is:

- To promote Easton's vision of a community that has as its core values freedom from bigotry, hatred, intolerance, and disrespect.
- To build a stronger, more unified Town that respects and recognizes both our diversity and our commonalities.
- To work with community groups and agencies to educate, promote understanding to eliminate prejudice and intolerance, and to mediate within the community whenever needed.
- To confront statements and actions that conflict with the core values expressed above.

The Human Rights Committee (HRC) is currently comprised of 9 at-large members of the community as well as the Town Civil Rights Officer and representatives from the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee.

In its first full calendar year, the Committee has:

- Established the capability to receive and send regular and electronic mail
- Created an informational flyer to distribute to community members and partners
- Continued to perform outreach to influential community partners such as schools, the Civil Rights Officer, and other important community institutions
- Welcomed Easton School Superintendent Lisha Cabral to the HRC with an open discussion on opportunities for community involvement
- Developed and posted resource materials on our webpage
- Hosted the Unity Project, a public art installation promoting awareness of differences, at the annual Natural Resources Trust of Easton's Harvest Fair in October
- Developed and distributed a calendar to all school personnel regarding observance of religious holidays and the impact of such observance on students and the school day
- Donated a Unity-themed tree to the Easton Festival of Trees
- Drafted and approved a standard response statement for the chair to release in cases that warrant a rapid response
- Hosted a craft table at the annual Lions Club festival at the Rockery in December, providing craft activities and developing peace and unity posters

The Human Rights Committee is eager to partner with existing groups and can be reached via email at humanrights@easton.ma.us.

Respectfully submitted:

Ilisabeth Bornstein, Chair
Karen Chan, Vice-Chair

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

On February 27, 2017, Danielle M. Sicard assumed the role of Town Clerk, having previously served as the Town Clerk in Walpole and Norton. Danielle comes with 7 years' experience and the designations of Certified Massachusetts Municipal Clerk (CMMC) and Master Municipal Clerk (MMC). The Town Clerk's Office was extremely busy in 2017 bridging the gap between 2008 and 2016 in regards to Bylaw Filings and re-creation of missing permanent records. Much progress was made in 2017 in restoring community confidence and laying the foundation for more systematic approaches to processes managed by the Town Clerk's Office.

Town Clerk's Office - Staff

The Office of the Clerk has 3 full time employees as follows:

Danielle M. Sicard - Town Clerk
Teressa Wooding – Assistant Town Clerk
Peter L. Van Der Hey – Records Manager & Compliance Officer

The Office of the Town Clerk is located at Town Hall, 136 Elm Street, Easton, MA 02356. The Town Clerk's Office can be contacted via email at townclerksoffice@easton.ma.us or by phone at 508-230-0530.

All staff are Notaries Public and have the authority to notarize certain documents signed in their presence.

Board of Registrars

Board of Registrars provide certification of nomination papers, conduct voter registration sessions and conduct voter recounts, when required. There are 4 Board of Registrars for the Town of Easton as follows:

Danielle M. Sicard, Town Clerk
Benjamin T. Carroll
Barbara C. Methelis - Crowley
Patricia A. Locke

The Town would like to pay special recognition to Robert Kane who served as a Board of Registrar since 2013 until his death in May 1, 2017.

Office of the Town Clerk Mission Statement

To facilitate the efforts of Easton residents, visitors and employees to access public information in an efficient, transparent and timely manner, to enable voters to avail themselves of the democratic process, to provide high quality service in a courteous and professional manner, to strive to improve both the Office and its employees through habitual innovation and education, to preserve and promote the history of the town through its historical documents and artifacts, and to comply with federal, state and local statutes.

General Powers and Duties

The Easton Town Clerk is appointed by the Town Administrator and holds the rank of department head. The Town Clerk, supported by staff, has 5 major functions: Chief Election Officer, Registrar of Vital Records and Statistics, Records Access Officer, Record and Recording Officer and Licensing Officer. In addition, the Town Clerk's Office manages multiple facets of public body administration relative to management of records that include implementation of the Open Meeting Law and State Ethics Conflict of Interest Laws that were revised in 2010.

Elections & Town Meetings - Chief Election Officer

The Town Clerk acts as the Chief Election Officer, responsible for administering all local, state and federal elections in accordance with Massachusetts & Federal Election Laws and CMR's.

The Town Clerk's Office handles voter registrations, deletions, party and address changes on a daily basis through the States VRIS system and sends notices to those individuals as required by law. Residents may register to vote in person, by mail or online.

The Town Clerk's Office conducts an annual street list, known as the Town Census, and publishes the results in a permanent record, known as a Street List Book.

The Town Clerk is responsible for the submittal of new or amended bylaws approved at Town Meetings to the Attorney General as prescribed in M.G.L. c. 40 s. 32. The Town Clerk's Office maintains a current Town Code book online (Charter, Bylaws, Zoning Bylaws, and Regulations) through General Code to provide citizens, town officials and town employee's quick and accurate access to the Towns Code.

The following voter records were processed in the Town of Easton in 2017:

Voter Registrations:	New Voters:	1008
	Deleted Voters:	1308
	Voter Changes:	6591
Census Processing:	1 st Mailing:	10,080 households
	Confirmation Mailing:	5,227 voters

The total # of registered voters in the Town of Easton on December 30, 2017 was 16,660 voters.

The following Elections and Town Meetings were recorded in the Town of Easton in 2017:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| • ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION | APRIL 25, 2017 |
| • ANNUAL TOWN MEETING | MAY 15, 2017 |
| • SPECIAL TOWN MEETING | NOVEMBER 13, 2017 |

In addition, all Zoning & General Bylaw articles approved at Town Meetings in 2008 – 2016 were sent to the Attorney General's Office for approval and have been codified, bringing the online code up to date in 2017.

Results from each Election and Town Meeting in 2017 are provided within this Annual Town Report.

Registrar of Vital Records & Statistics and Burial Agent

The Town Clerk acts as the Town Registrar of Vital Records and Statistics, accepting filings, maintaining records and archiving permanent records of all births, deaths and marriages that occur in Easton. The Town Clerk is authorized to issue certified copies of birth, death and marriage records that they have on record. The fee for obtaining a certified copy of a vital record is **\$20.00** for the first copy and **\$10.00** for each additional copy (if requested when obtaining first copy).

The Town Clerk issues marriage licenses. Persons wishing to obtain a license must file their intentions with the Town Clerk in person (*except for those cases where one person is in the military or incarcerated*). A license is available to have a ceremony performed 3 days after filing the intentions to be married and is valid for sixty days from filing the intentions. The cost of a marriage license in Easton is **\$50.00**.

The following vital records were recorded in the Town of Easton in 2017:

Births:	180
Deaths:	212
Marriages:	101

The Town Clerk is also the Burial Agent for the Town of Easton and recorded the following in 2017:

Burial Permits:	106
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Records Access Officer

The Town Clerk acts as Records Access Officer in accordance with Chapter 121 of the Acts of 2016. The Records Access Officer is responsible for coordinating a response to requests for access to public records, assisting individuals seeking public records in identifying the records requested, and preparing guidelines that enable requestors to make informed requests regarding the availability of such public records electronically or otherwise.

The following Public Records Requests were recorded in the Town of Easton in 2017:

Public Records Requests recorded:	138	(February 23 rd – December 31 st)
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Keeper of Records - Record and Recording Officer

The Town Clerk serves as the custodian of town records and official documents and is responsible for the maintenance, preservation and disposition of all town records. State law provides that the Town Clerk is the official keeper of the Town Seal and the Town's Oath Book. The Town Clerk's Office is required by state law to ensure that town records are readily available for public inspection.

Archival Management

The Town Clerk oversees the execution of policies and orders of the Supervisor of Public Records, and provisions of MGL. C.66. The Office of the Town Clerk, with the assistance of the Records Manager & Compliance Officer, develop and implement procedures, standards and techniques for ensuring adequate custody, preservation, destruction, recovery and accountability of records as part of the towns archival management program.

Public Body Administration

Upon each appointment, all members of a public body are required to be sworn in and acknowledge the receipt of the Open Meeting Law materials, State Ethics Conflict of Interest Summary and Town of Easton's Social Media Policy, which is done through the Office of the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk's Office in Easton provides notice of appointment to all Board of Selectmen appointees and maintains a database with compliance records.

Ethics – Conflict of Interest

The Town Clerk acts as Ethics Liaison who is responsible for distributing the ethics summary annually and ensuring that all employees and board and committee members are complying with the state requirements by completing the online training every two years.

Open Meeting Law

The Open Meeting Law requires all public bodies to post their meeting agendas within 48 hours, excluding weekends and holidays. All postings are done through the Office of the Town Clerk and are posted on the bulletin board at Town Hall and on the town's website. Minutes are also submitted to the Town Clerk for posting to the town's website after approval.

Licensing Officer

In 2017, the following licenses and permits were issued or recorded by the Office of the Town Clerk in the Town of Easton:

Dog Licenses:	1676
DBA Business Certificates:	140
Yard Sale Permits:	68
Raffle Permits:	4

Dog Licenses

All dog owners in the Town must obtain a license for their dog(s) annually. The license period is January 1st – December 31st. A license will be issued only if the owner has evidence of a rabies vaccination, which is valid as of the date of issuance. The fee for a dog license is **\$10.00** for a spayed or neutered dog, **\$15.00** for unaltered. A late fee of **\$5.00 per month** is added if the dog is not licensed before March 1st or within 60 days of arrival to the Town of Easton or obtaining the dog(s). Owners of unlicensed dogs are also subject to a citation and pick up fee in accordance with Chapter 104 of the bylaws of the Town of Easton. If you have four or more dogs, you must receive permission from the Easton Zoning Board of Appeals before obtaining a kennel license from the Town Clerk's Office.

DBA Business Certificates

All "doing business as" or "DBA" Business Certificates are filed with the Town Clerk. Once filed, a DBA certificate is valid for four years. The fee for filing is **\$50.00**.

Yard Sale Permits

Yard sales may be held in the Town of Easton, pursuant to a permit granted by the Office of the Town Clerk, as the Agent of the Board of Selectmen. Chapter 193 of the Town of Easton Bylaws regulate the activity of offering for sale secondhand articles within residential areas of the community. The fee for a yard sale permit is **\$10.00**.

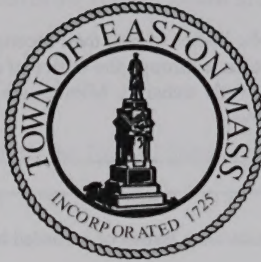
Raffle Permits

Although Massachusetts General Laws prohibit most forms of gambling in the Commonwealth, an exception under M.G.L. c. 271, s. 7A and its implementing regulations, 940 CMR 12, allow for some nonprofit organizations to be permitted to hold certain gaming activities through raffles and bazaars in order to fundraise. A nonprofit organization which can show it has been operating in the Town of Easton for two or more years and has a charitable or civic purpose may apply for a raffle permit. The raffle permit fee in the Town of Easton is **\$15, or \$10 for a renewal**.

The Town Clerk's Office embraces its role as the gateway where citizens seek information and assistance on all aspects of local and state government.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle M. Sicard, MMC / CMMC
Town Clerk



**TOWN OF EASTON
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION RESULTS
APRIL 25, 2017**

The following is a tabulation of voters for all six precincts at this election.
The Poll hours were open from **7:00 AM - 8:00 PM**

Registered Voters: **17,076**

Total Votes Cast: **2,929**

Percentage of Registered Voters who Voted: **17.15%**

TOTAL BALLOTS CAST	Per Precinct counts
Precinct 1:	314
Precinct 2:	696
Precinct 3:	283
Precinct 4:	655
Precinct 5:	556
Precinct 6:	425
TOTAL	2929

Absentee Ballots	# ballots sent	# returned & Cast
P1	14	13
P2	31	30
P3	15	15
P4	31	25
P5	33	31
P6	15	14
TOTAL	139	128

92.1% % Absentee Ballots requested vs Cast

0.7% % Absentee Ballots requested vs # Registered Voters

A True Record Attest:

Danielle M. Sicard, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF EASTON
RECORD OF
Annual Town Election
Tuesday, April 25, 2017**

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	
Selectmen							
Blanks	0	1	5	1	5	2	14
Carol F. Nestler	82	256	82	184	113	113	830
Craig B. Barger	232	439	196	470	436	310	2083
Write Ins	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
	314	696	283	655	556	425	2929
Moderator							
Blanks	89	216	84	190	176	131	886
Kate E. Welch	224	474	196	456	376	291	2017
Write Ins	1	6	3	9	4	3	26
	314	696	283	655	556	425	2929
Board of Assessors							
Blanks	105	225	93	211	201	125	960
Raymen A. Morrell	209	470	190	442	352	300	1963
Write Ins	0	1	0	2	3	0	6
	314	696	283	655	556	425	2929
Board of Health							
Blanks	103	211	88	212	171	123	908
Lynne A. Leblanc	210	482	195	441	382	301	2011
Write Ins	1	3	0	2	3	1	10
	314	696	283	655	556	425	2929
School Committee - 3yrs (vote for 2)							
Blanks	103	281	121	234	202	184	1125
Caroline S. O'Neill	216	458	179	427	395	266	1941
Michelle P. Durrance	230	415	161	442	371	252	1871
Somying Jane Monroe	77	233	105	204	142	147	908
Write Ins	2	5	0	3	2	1	13
	628	1392	566	1310	1112	850	5858
School Committee - 2 yrs							
Blanks	28	76	31	57	47	30	269
Jane H. Martin	226	451	177	446	407	253	1960
Jacob G. Weintraub	60	168	74	151	102	142	697
Write Ins	0	1	1	1	0	0	3
	314	696	283	655	556	425	2929
Finance Committee (vote for 3)							
Blanks	167	491	205	433	374	302	1971
Kimberly A. Dubois	85	270	99	193	151	136	934
Michael J. Pietrowski	56	203	76	142	135	111	723
Thomas W. Brussard	232	445	173	474	407	278	2009
Patrick C. Hellen	191	320	140	339	278	212	1480
Roberta A. Verville	209	356	156	378	314	229	1642
Write Ins	2	3	0	6	9	7	28



**TOWN OF EASTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
WARRANT AND RESULTS
May 15, 2017**

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton in the County of Bristol:
GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Easton qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium in said Easton on Monday, the 15th day of May, next, at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act upon the following articles:

The Moderator congratulated all of the new elected members and thanked them for their service. The Moderator reviewed some town meeting rules & procedures and noted that the glossary of terms is located at the back of the Warrant. She introduced several Girl Scouts from the Town of Easton who led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A quorum of registered voters of the Town of Easton being present and the proper return of the Warrant being met, Town Moderator Kate Welch called the May 15, 2017 Annual Town Meeting, held in the Auditorium of Oliver Ames High School, to order at 7:19 PM.

ARTICLE 1. ACCEPTANCE OF ANNUAL REPORTS

To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Selectmen, Town Administrator, Assessors, Board of Health, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, School Committee, Town Accountant, Director of Public Works, and other Departments, Boards and Committees of the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Murphy moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to accept the reports of the Selectmen, Town Administrator, Assessors, Board of Health, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, School Committee, Town Accountant, Director of Public Works, and other Departments, Boards and Committees of the Town.

Explanation: This is an annual vote to accept the Town Report.

<i>Vote Required:</i>	<i>SIMPLE MAJORITY</i>
<i>Selectmen Recommendation:</i>	<i>RECOMMENDED</i>
<i>Finance Committee Recommendation:</i>	<i>RECOMMENDED</i>

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 2. BY-LAW AUTHORIZING REVOLVING FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 26. Financial Affairs bylaw of the Town of Easton General Bylaws by adding a new § 26-6 to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain Town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under G.L. c. 44, § 53E½, or take any other action relative thereto, in the Town of Easton as follows:

Chapter 26. Financial Affairs

§ 26-6. Departmental Revolving Funds

A. Purpose.

- (1) This by-law establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by Town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½.

B. Expenditure Limitations.

- (1) A department or agency head, board, committee or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law without appropriation subject to the following limitations:
 - (a) Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund, except for those employed as school bus drivers.
 - (b) No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.
 - (c) The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by Town meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the select board and finance committee.

C. Interest.

- (1) Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this by-law shall be credited to the general fund.

D. Procedures and Reports.

- (1) Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½ and this by-law, the laws, charter provisions, by-laws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures that govern the receipt and custody of Town monies and the expenditure and payment of Town funds shall apply to the use of a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law. The Town accountant auditor shall include a statement on the collections credited to each fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to the fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the Town accountant auditor provides the department, board, committee, agency or officer on appropriations made for its use.

E. Authorized Revolving Funds.

- (1) The Table establishes:
 - (a) Each revolving fund authorized for use by a town department, board, committee, agency or officer,
 - (b) The department or agency head, board, committee or officer authorized to spend from each fund,
 - (c) The fees, charges and other monies charged and received by the department, board, committee, agency or officer in connection with the program or activity for which the fund is established that shall be credited to each fund by the town accountant,
 - (d) The expenses of the program or activity for which each fund may be used,
 - (e) Any restrictions or conditions on expenditures from each fund,
 - (f) Any reporting or other requirements that apply to each fund, and the fiscal years each fund shall operate under this by-law.

Revolving Account	Spending Authority	Revenue Source	Allowed Expenses	Fiscal Year
Conservation Commission Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account	Conservation Commission	Fees required by Chapter 227, Wetlands Regulations, of the Code of the Town of Easton	Services of expert engineers and consultants; supplies, services and administrative costs as necessary; the purchase of software; and any other related expenses. to aid the Commission in making decisions on conservation applications, or enforcement actions.	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Site Plan & Subdivision Review, Special Permit and Inspection Fees Account	Planning & Zoning Board	Fees received from applicants for subdivision or special permit approval for application review, publication of notices and inspections	Services of expert engineers and consultants, related administrative costs, deemed necessary by the Board; costs and expenses of application review and inspections during construction; the purchase of software; and any other related expenses.	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Town Clerk's Record Preservation Fund	Town Clerk	Fees and receipts received from a surcharge applied to all certified vital record copies	Supplies, services, and related administrative costs to aid in the preservation, restoration and documentation of the permanent records of the Town.	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Recreation Revolving Fund	Recreation	Fees and receipts received from recreational programs and activities	Supplies, services, and related administrative costs for the operation of recreational programs and activities for the Town.	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Recreational Field Maintenance Revolving Fund	Recreation	Fees and receipts and donations received in connection with field usage and related activities	Supplies, services, equipment, and related implementation costs for the operation and maintenance of recreational fields for the Town.	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Board of Health Vaccination Revolving Fund	Health Dept.	Fees and receipts received from vaccination activities	Supplies, services, and related administrative costs for the purpose of purchasing and administering vaccinations for the Town.	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Board of Health Betterment Fees Revolving Fund	Health Dept.	Fees and receipts received in connection with septic betterment applications	Supplies, services, and related administrative costs for the purpose of administering the Septic Betterment Program for the Town.	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years

Revolving Account	Spending Authority	Revenue Source	Allowed Expenses	Fiscal Year
Agricultural Commission Revolving Fund	Agricultural Commission	Fees and receipts received in connection with agricultural programs delivered by the Agricultural Commission	Supplies, services, and related administrative costs for the purpose of delivering agricultural programs in the Town.	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years

or take any other action with relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Murphy moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to amend Chapter 26 of the Town of Easton General Bylaws by adding a new section, § 26-6 Departmental Revolving Funds as printed in the warrant under Article 2.

Explanation: This article establishes a bylaw for these revolving funds in accordance with the State’s Municipal Modernization Act. Previously, the revolving funds and their respective spending limits were authorized annually at town meeting in one article. This change allows the funds to remain authorized until revoked by bylaw change and only the spending limits will need to be voted going forward.

Vote Required: SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation: RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation: RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 3. SPENDING LIMITS FOR REVOLVING FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the total expenditures for the following revolving funds pursuant to G.L. c44 Section 53E ½ for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 to be expended in accordance with the bylaws heretofore approved.

FUND	Approved Total Expenditures
Conservation Commission Filing Fees	\$50,000
Planning Board Fees	\$50,000
Town Clerk Records	\$10,000
Recreation	\$300,000
Recreation Field Maintenance	\$50,000
Board of Health vaccinations	\$10,000
Board of Health Betterment Fees	\$5,000
Agricultural Commission	\$25,000

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Murphy moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to authorize the total expenditures for the revolving funds printed in the warrant under Article 3, pursuant to G.L. c44 Section 53E ½ for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 to be expended in accordance with the bylaws heretofore approved.

Explanation: This article establishes the spending limits for the funds authorized in Article 2.

Vote Required: SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation: RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation: RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 4. ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town, as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as follows:

Board of Selectmen, each member \$1,800
Board of Health, each member \$1,000
Board of Assessors, each member \$1,800
Moderator \$ 100

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Fulginiti moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town, as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: This is an annual article, required by statute, to set the salary levels for all compensated elected officials.

Vote Required: SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation: RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation: RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 5. APPROPRIATION & AUTHORIZATION TO EXPEND CHAPTER 90 FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$732,693 to be expended in anticipation of the reimbursement authorized for the State's share of the cost of work to be done under Chapter 90 of the General Laws, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Fulginiti moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$732,693 to be expended in anticipation of the reimbursement authorized for the State's share of the cost of work to be done under Chapter 90 of the General Laws.

Explanation: This is the Town's annual share of Chapter 90 funds provided by the State for road related improvements in the community.

Vote Required: SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation: RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation: RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 6. PAYMENT OF BILL(S) FROM A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay the cost of bills incurred in a prior fiscal year, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Fulginiti moved and it was seconded to dismiss Article 6.

Explanation: This article allows for the payment of prior year bills discovered after the close of the fiscal year, should any arise.

Vote Required: SIMPLE MAJORITY FOR DISMISSAL

DECLARED DISMISSED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 7. SUPPLEMENT FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGETS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to supplement fiscal year 2017 budgets, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman McIntyre moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$152,107 to supplement the following fiscal year 2017 budgets:

Selectmen	\$ 14,000
Finance Committee	500
Town Accountant	607
Town Counsel	22,000
Inspectional Services	15,000
DPW Administration	<u>100,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$152,107</u>

and further, that to meet this appropriation, \$30,000 shall be transferred from the fiscal year 2017 Health & Community Services Budget, \$9,607 shall be transferred from the fiscal year 2017 Planning and Community Development Budget, \$5,000 shall be transferred from the fiscal year 2017 Public Safety Dispatch budget, \$56,500 shall be transferred from the fiscal year 2017 Employee Benefits and Insurance budget, \$6,000 shall be transferred from fiscal year 2016 expired encumbrances and 45,000 shall be transferred from surplus funds voted pursuant to Article 17 of the May 18, 2015 Annual Town Meeting.

Explanation: The selectmen's budget requires funding for additional costs related to an employment settlement, the Finance Committee requires additional funds for a recording secretary, The Town Accountant budget requires additional funds for clerical wages, the Town Counsel budget has experienced increased legal fees, the Inspectional Services budget has incurred increased plumbing and gas inspector fees, the DPW Building and Grounds Division has increased overtime in connection with the energy services project and the current year snow & ice deficit of \$55,000 is also included in the DPW total.

Vote Required: SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation: RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation: RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 8. TRANSFER TO CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to be placed into the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Selectman McIntyre moved and it was seconded that the Town vote appropriate the sum of \$1,000,000 from available mitigation funds received from Avalon Bay to be placed into the Capital Stabilization Fund.

Explanation: This article will transfer a mitigation payment received from the Avalon Bay project to the Capital Stabilization Fund.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 9. APPROPRIATION OF UTILITY INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from available funds a sum of money received from utility incentive payments in connection with the Town's ESCO project and use said funds to offset project costs to reduce the final amount to be borrowed, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman McIntyre moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$328,012.50 received from utility incentive payments to offset project costs in connection with the Town's ESCO project.

Explanation: The town has received significant incentive payments from gas and electric utilities as a result of cost saving measures implemented by the Town's energy saving ESCO project and this appropriation will be used to reduce overall project costs.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 10. TRANSFER TO UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate and transfer from available funds a sum of money to be transferred into the unemployment trust fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Mills moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$15,000 from the fiscal year 2017 Planning and Community Development budget to the Unemployment Trust Fund.

Explanation: The balance in the trust fund will be depleted based on current claims and needs to be supplemented.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 11. FUND SICK LEAVE BUYBACK REQUESTS AS REQUIRED BY COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay the cost of accumulated sick-leave required to be paid by collective bargaining contract, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Mills moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$71,000 to pay the cost of accumulated sick-leave required to be paid by collective bargaining contract and that to meet this appropriation, \$67,300 shall be transferred from the fiscal year 2017 Employee Benefits and Insurance budget and \$3,700 shall be transferred from surplus funds voted pursuant to Article 5 of the November 16, 2015 Special Town Meeting.

Explanation: This article will fund the buyback of accumulated sick leave for retiring union members and members opting to buyback time as allowed under collective bargaining agreements.

Vote Required: SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation: RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation: RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 12. FY 2018 OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money to defray the Town charges for the ensuing fiscal year including the salaries of the several elected and appointed officers of the Town, and make appropriations for the same as listed below, or take any other action relative thereto.

FD-DPT	DEPARTMENT NAME	AMOUNT
01.120	SELECTMEN	\$ 561,710
01.131	FINANCE COMMITTEE	1,500
01.132	RESERVE FUND	60,000
01.135	ACCOUNTANT	231,685
01.140	ASSESSORS	256,047
01.145	TOWN COLLECTOR/TREASURER	357,711
01.150	TOWN COUNSEL	170,000
01.155	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	212,534
01.160	TOWN CLERK	230,195
01.175	PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	316,505
01.210	POLICE	4,231,541
01.211	PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH	604,765
01.220	FIRE	3,630,072
01.231	AMBULANCE	691,703
01.240	INSPECTIONAL SERVICES	300,396
01.310	SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SCHOOL	980,235
01.400	DPW ADMINISTRATION	3,209,205

01.500	HEALTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES	1,024,631
01.610	LIBRARY	512,703
01.700	MATURING DEBT & INTEREST	5,122,125
01.910	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS & INSURANCE	13,587,885
01.920	OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT	99,900
60.440	SEWER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE	350,000
61.450	WATER DIVISION	2,310,880
62.430	SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING	1,200,000
63.120	P.E.G. ACCESS & CABLE RELATED FEES ENTERPRISE	600,000
01.300	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	39,979,017
	TOTAL FY 2018 BUDGET	\$80,832,945

Submitted by Town Administrator

MOTION: Selectman Murphy moved and it was seconded that the town vote to appropriate the sum of \$80,832,945, of which \$73,914,614 shall be raised from taxation, \$1,585,504 shall be transferred from free cash, \$180,000 shall be transferred from the stabilization fund, \$5,525 shall be transferred from the conservation fund, \$99,739 shall be transferred from septic betterments receipts reserved for appropriation, \$8,930 shall be transferred from the Planning Board Subdivision Review, Special Permit and Inspection Fees Account, \$20,0000 shall be transferred from the Conservation Commission Chapter 227 Filing Fee Account, \$2,868,633 shall be transferred from water enterprise receipts, \$350,000 shall be transferred from sewer enterprise receipts, \$1,200,000 shall be transferred from solid waste and recycling enterprise receipts and \$600,000 shall be transferred from cable franchise and related revenue enterprise receipts, all to meet the Town charges, including the salaries of several elected and appointed officers of the Town for fiscal year 2018 as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: This is the annual operating budget for the Town. The Town Administrator and others will make a presentation at town meeting regarding this proposal.

Vote Required: TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation: RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation: RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY 2/3 BY THE MODERATOR

A **MOTION** was made (after the vote for Article 13) by Rory Kallfelz to reconsider Article 12. The Motion was 2nd.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER DECLARED FAILED

ARTICLE 13. APPROVAL OF TAX AGREEMENT WITH SUN POWER CORP.

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with G.L. c. 59, § 38H to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate and enter into a Tax Agreement with Sun Power Corporation, located at 1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond, CA 94804 for a period of up to twenty (20) years, and to approve said agreement under which Sun Power Corporation will pay the Town a sum of money per year relative to a parcel of land located at 320 Washington Street, Easton, MA 02356 related to the proposed construction and operation of a Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation with an expected nameplate capacity of approximately 2806 kW, said Tax Agreement is on file in the Town Clerk's Office; or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Town Administrator

MOTION: Selectman Barger moved and it was seconded to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a tax agreement with Sun Power Corporation, as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: This article will authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement with Sun Power Corporation, a for profit entity which has constructed a 2.8 megawatt solar array at Stonehill College as a part of a power purchase agreement between those two entities. Following a series of Appellate Tax Board rulings in 2016 regarding the taxation of solar panels leased to tax exempt land lords, the Department of Revenue has instructed our Chief Assessor to secure a tax agreement with Sun Power Corporation, who own the solar panels. This tax agreement will generate \$82,722 in new growth during FY2019 and will pay a total of \$475,116 to the Town of Easton over twenty years.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

**ARTICLE 14. PROPOSED ARTICLE TO CREATE A DEPARTMENT OF
MUNICIPAL FINANCE IN THE TOWN OF EASTON**

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Section C5-1(b) of the Town of Easton Home Rule Charter, to establish a municipal finance department in the Town of Easton, as follows:

1. Creation of Department of Municipal Finance. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be in the Town of Easton a department of municipal finance responsible for the coordination of all financial functions and activities of the town, including but not limited to: maintenance of all accounting records and other financial statements; payment of all obligations on behalf of the town; investment of town funds and management of debt; receipt of all funds due; maintenance of a system of property valuation; rendering of advice, guidance, and recommendations to town departments, offices, and boards in matters related to their financial or fiscal affairs; and routine monitoring and reporting of revenues and expenditures by town departments, offices, and boards. The department shall include the offices and functions of the town accountant, treasurer/collector, board of assessors, chief assessor, and assistant assessor. The department shall have such additional powers, duties, and responsibilities with respect to municipal finance-related functions and activities as the town may from time to time provide by bylaw.
2. Finance Director. The department of municipal finance shall be under the direct control and supervision of the finance director who shall report to the town administrator. The finance director shall be the town accountant, as appointed by the board of selectmen pursuant to the provisions of § C3-2 (d) of the Town of Easton Home Rule Charter, subject to the bylaws of the Town of Easton, as they may be amended from time-to-time. The director may be removed by the board of selectmen in accordance with the procedures set forth in § C7-11 of the Charter. The director shall be a person especially fitted by education, experience, and training to perform the duties of the office.
3. Finance Director Duties and Responsibilities. The director shall also serve as the town accountant and shall be responsible for coordinating the fiscal management procedures of the office of the town accountant, treasurer/collector, and chief assessor. The director shall assist the town administrator in the preparation of the annual operating budget and capital plan, shall be an advisor to the board of selectmen, town administrator, finance committee, and all other town departments, concerning financial and programmatic implications of current and future financial policies, including standards for the preparation of the annual budget and capital plan. The director shall, in consultation with the town administrator, be responsible for the supervision and coordination of all tasks and activities of the department. The director shall provide the town administrator and board of selectmen with reports no less than quarterly and more often as requested concerning the matters under their supervision. The director shall have all the powers, duties, and responsibilities of and be subject to the liabilities and penalties conferred and imposed by law on the offices of town accountant under the General Laws, except as provided herein. The director shall have such

additional duties and responsibilities as may be determined from time-to-time by the town administrator, and as may be determined bylaw.

4. Chief Assessor. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be in the Town of Easton the position of chief assessor who shall report to the finance director. The chief assessor shall be appointed by the town administrator in consultation with the finance director; provided, however, that said appointment shall be subject to the bylaws of said Town of Easton, as they may be amended from time-to-time. The chief assessor shall be responsible for all the assessing functions for the Town of Easton. The chief assessor shall be a person especially fitted by education, experience, and training to perform the duties of the office.

An elected, three-member Board of Assessors shall be part of the Department of Municipal Finance, and shall continue to make decisions on matters of statutory independence, which they are required to make under Massachusetts General Laws.

5. Treasurer/Collector. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be in the Town of Easton the position of treasurer/collector who shall report to the finance director. The treasurer/collector shall be appointed by the town administrator in consultation with the finance director; provided, however, that said appointment shall be subject to the bylaws of said Town of Easton, as they may be amended from time-to-time. The treasurer/collector shall have all the powers, duties, and responsibilities of and be subject to the liabilities and penalties conferred and imposed by law on the office of treasurer and collector under the General Laws, except as provided herein. The treasurer/collector shall be a person especially fitted by education, experience, and training to perform the duties of those offices.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Barger moved and it was seconded to create a Department of Municipal Finance, as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: The Board of Selectmen entered in to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Community Compact Program in 2016 seeking to promote best management practices. As part of this program, the Department of Revenue Division of Local Services studied the Town of Easton's financial management and recommended the creation of a department of municipal finance to be led by a finance director / town accountant. Creation of this department would unify and coordinate the financial functions of the Town's existing departments of Town Accountant, Assessors, and Collector/Treasurer. This reorganization is purely operational, adds no new positions, and has no budgetary impact.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 15. APPLICATION OF BOND PREMIUM TO PAY PROJECT COSTS

To see if the Town will vote to supplement each prior vote of the Town that authorizes the borrowing of money to pay costs of capital projects to provide that, in accordance with Chapter 44 Section 20 of the General Laws, the premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to pay project costs, and the amount authorized to be borrowed for each such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Town Administrator

MOTION: Selectman Barger moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to approve Article 15 as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: The State's recent passage of the Municipal Modernization Act now restricts the use of premiums received in connection debt issuances to either offset project costs or be reserved for future capital use. All future borrowing authorizations will require specific language related to premium use. However, the Town has multiple borrowing authorizations outstanding that have not yet been fully bonded. This article provides the necessary language to allow those premiums to be used to offset the costs of those projects and reduce the amount to be borrowed.

Vote Required: SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation: RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation: RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 16. ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION RESERVE FUND

To see if the Town will accept the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 13E of the Massachusetts General Laws permitting the School District to establish a Special Education Reserve Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by School Committee

MOTION: Selectman Murphy moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 13E of the Massachusetts General Laws permitting the School District to establish a Special Education Reserve Fund.

Explanation: The purpose of this Article is to permit the school district to establish a special education reserve fund to pay for unanticipated or unbudgeted special education costs, out-of-district special education tuition, and transportation. Distributions from the fund will require a majority vote of the school committee and majority vote of the selectmen approving the distribution.

Vote Required: SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation: RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation: RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 17. TRANSFER TO SPECIAL EDUCATION RESERVE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to be placed into the Special Education Reserve Fund established pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 13E of the Massachusetts General Laws; or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by School Committee

Motion: Selectman Murphy moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$200,000 from the fiscal 2017 School Department budget to be placed into the Special Education Reserve Fund established pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 13E of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Explanation: A transfer of school budget funds from out-of-district savings into this newly created reserve fund would be used for future unanticipated or unbudgeted costs related to special education, special education out-of-district tuition or special education transportation. A vote of the school committee and selectmen would be needed to spend these funds which can only be used for these special education costs.

Vote Required: SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation: RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation: RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 18. APPROVE FUNDING FOR SOUTHEASTERN PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHERS' UNIT CONTRACT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money needed to fund the incremental cost items contained in a collective bargaining agreement between the Town and the and Professional Administrative Employees Association, such agreement to be effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018; or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Murphy moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to approve funding for the incremental cost items contained in a collective bargaining agreement between the Town and the Southeastern Public Employees Association Public Safety Dispatchers' Unit, such agreement to be effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018, with costs for fiscal year 2017 being funded in the Public Safety Dispatchers' fiscal year 2017 operating budget.

Explanation: This article will fund the cost items of a new collective bargaining agreement with the Public Safety Dispatchers Unit for fiscal years 2017 and 2018. The estimated cost for fiscal 2017 is \$18,000.

Vote Required: *SIMPLE MAJORITY*
Selectmen Recommendation: *RECOMMENDED*
Finance Committee Recommendation: *RECOMMENDED*

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 19. FY 2018 CAPITAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, the sum of \$4,873,783 for the purpose of meeting the capital budget needs of the Town for fiscal year 2018 as follows:

Fire – Hurst Battery Operated Rescue Tools	\$ 37,000
Fire – Ambulance Replacement	280,000
DPW – Municipal Facilities Capital Improvements	200,000
DPW – Salt Brine Generator/Tanks/Spreaders	100,000
DPW – Bucket Truck	210,000
DPW – Hooklift (F550)	120,000
IT – IP Camera Security System for Town Offices and Frothingham Hall	10,783
IT – Telephone Lease System Upgrade	66,000
Water Main Replacement Program (Depot St. Project)	3,667,000
Water Main Replacement Program (In-House)	100,000
Water F250 Utility Truck with Plow	47,000
Water Vibratory Plate Trench Compactor	36,000
Total	\$ 4,873,783

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Town Administrator

MOTION: Selectman Fulginiti moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$4,923,079 for the purpose of meeting the capital budget needs of the Town for fiscal year

2018 as listed in the warrant under Article 19, provided that the word “lease” is removed from the IT-Telephone Lease System Upgrade item and further that the sum of \$49,296 is added for capital repairs to fire pumper truck engine #4, all as shown on the screen, and that to meet this appropriation, \$97,079 shall be transferred from the capital stabilization fund, \$183,000 shall be transferred from water surplus, and that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow \$4,643,000 for the ambulance replacement, municipal facilities capital improvements, salt brine generator/tanks/ spreaders, bucket truck, hooklift, telephone system upgrade, and Depot Street water main replacement program under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44 or any other enabling authority, provided that in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, the premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bond or notes, may be applied to pay project costs and the amount authorized to be borrowed for each such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to do or take all actions necessary to carry out these projects on behalf of or in the name of the Town.

As shown on the screen and as approved:

Fire – Engine #4 Repairs	49,296
Fire – Hurst Battery Operated Rescue Tools	37,000
Fire – Ambulance Replacement	280,000
DPW – Municipal Facilities Capital Improvements	200,000
DPW – Salt Brine Generator/Tanks/Spreaders	100,000
DPW – Bucket Truck	210,000
DPW – Hooklift (F550)	120,000
IT – IP Camera Security System for Town Offices and Frothingham Hall	10,783
IT – Telephone System Upgrade	66,000
Water Main Replacement Program (Depot St. Project)	3,667,000
Water Main Replacement Program (In-House)	100,000
Water F250 Utility Truck with Plow	47,000
Water Vibratory Plate Trench Compactor	36,000
Total	\$ 4,923,079

Explanation: This is the annual capital budget for the Town.

<i>Vote Required:</i>	<i>TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY</i>
<i>Selectmen Recommendation:</i>	<i>RECOMMENDED</i>
<i>Finance Committee Recommendation:</i>	<i>RECOMMENDED</i>

DECLARED VOTED BY 2/3 BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 20. RESCIND PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED DEBT

To see if the Town will vote to rescind \$124,705 of the borrowing authorized under Article 10 of the May 16, 2011, Annual Town Meeting and \$10,000 of the borrowing authorized under Article 27 of the May 16, 2011 Annual Town Meeting, said funding originally appropriated for the respective purposes of funding the North Easton Village wastewater treatment and collection facilities construction and the fiscal year 2012 capital budget, but no longer needed as the projects are completed, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Fulginiti moved and it was seconded that Town vote to rescind \$124,705 of the borrowing authorized under Article 10 of the May 16, 2011, Annual Town Meeting and \$10,000 of the borrowing authorized under Article 27 of the May 16, 2011 Annual Town Meeting as printed in Article 20 of the warrant.

Explanation: The amounts to be rescinded in this article represent authorizations that were not borrowed for the North Easton Village sewer system and the 2012 capital budget. This "housekeeping" article will remove the residual authorizations which would otherwise remain on the books indefinitely.

Vote Required: *SIMPLE MAJORITY*
Selectmen Recommendation: *RECOMMENDED*
Finance Committee Recommendation: *RECOMMENDED*

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 21. PERMANENT SEWER EASEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for; and authorize the Selectmen to accept gifts, purchase, or take by eminent domain permanent easements and temporary construction easements necessary to construct, operate and maintain sewer infrastructure, including a sewer line and sewer pump station in or off of Washington Street and County Lane, all as shown on plans of land identified as follows: (1) Washington Street Sewer Pump Station Easement", prepared by GEOD Consulting, dated August 19, 2016; and (2) "County Lane Sewer Easement", prepared by GEOD Consulting, dated October 20, 2016 and (3)"Queset Commons Easement Plan", prepared by GEOD Consulting, dated October 20, 2016, copies of which will be on file with the Town Clerk's Office 14 days before the Town Meeting; or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Town Administrator

MOTION: Selectman Fulginiti moved and it was seconded that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to take, by eminent domain, or accept easements, as printed in the warrant, with funds to obtain such easements already being appropriated by the Town Meeting in 2015.

Explanation: These three easements are necessary to install and maintain sewers in the Queset Sewer District. The funding for these easements has already been appropriated by Annual Town Meeting in 2015.

Vote Required: *TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY*
Selectmen Recommendation: *RECOMMENDED*
Finance Committee Recommendation: *RECOMMENDED*

DECLARED VOTED BY 2/3 BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 22. REPORT AND FY 2018 BUDGET OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

To see if the Town will vote to act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2018 Community Preservation Budget and to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from Community Preservation Fund annual revenues or available funds for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of Community Preservation Projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, or take any other action relative thereto.

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2018 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION BUDGET

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Recommended Amount</u>
Appropriations	
Administrative Expenses	\$ 72,500
Debt Service	\$ 529,863
Reserves	
Annual Budgeted Reserve	\$ 847,637

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

MOTION: Selectman McIntyre moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to appropriate or reserve from Community Preservation Fund annual revenues, the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for administrative expenses, community preservation projects, the payment of debt service and other expenses in fiscal year 2018, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation, all as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: This article proposes the fiscal year 2018 budget for the Community Preservation Committee. Recommended amounts to be funded shall be considered separate appropriations.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 23. CPA FUNDING – AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FY18 PROGRAMS

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate the sum of \$145,000 from available Community Preservation Funds to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

MOTION: Selectman McIntyre moved and it was seconded that the Town vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate the sum of \$145,000 from Community Preservation Unreserved Fund Balance for the purpose of funding the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Shortened Explanation:

Explanation: This article would fund the Affordable Housing Trust's activities for FY 2018, which include funding of the Homebuyer Assistance Program, support for creation of group housing for developmentally disabled individuals on Foundry Street, matching funds for rebuilding Housing Authority family unit(s) on Poquanticut Avenue, support for a non-profit developer to create a family unit on Electric Avenue, and support for planning work and related administration.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 24. CPA FUNDING – NEW PRACTICE FIELD & TURF FIELD ENGINEERING

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate up to \$268,000 from available Community Preservation Funds for the purpose of constructing a new practice field and to complete an engineering plan in preparation for replacement of the Turf Field at the Oliver Ames High School located at 100 Lothrop Street and listed on Assessors Map 26U as Lot 7, provided that such funds may not be utilized for the purchase of artificial turf itself, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

MOTION: Selectman McIntyre moved and it was seconded that the Town vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate the sum of \$268,000 from Community Preservation Unreserved Fund Balance for the purpose of constructing a new practice field and to complete an engineering plan in preparation for replacement of the Turf Field at the Oliver Ames High School as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: This article would provide \$250,000 in funding to cover costs associated with construction of a new practice field on existing town-owned land at Oliver Ames High School and \$18,000 for completion of a field engineering plan in preparation for replacement of the turf field at the High School. Construction of the practice field increases field rotation opportunities and will likely aid in extending the life of the turf field.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 25. CPA FUNDING – OAKES AMES MEMORIAL HALL RESTORATION PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate up to \$200,000 from available Community Preservation Funds for the purpose of conducting exterior preservation work at Oakes Ames Memorial Hall, located at 3 Barrows Street and listed on Assessors Map 16U as Lot 9, including complete restoration of the northeast stair tower’s brownstone roof, masonry work on the balance of the south elevation and window restoration first floor of the west elevation or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

MOTION: Selectman McIntyre moved and it was seconded that the Town vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate the sum of \$200,000 from Community Preservation Unreserved Fund Balance for the purpose of conducting exterior preservation work at Oakes Ames Memorial Hall as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: This article would fund restoration work to the historic Oakes Ames Memorial Hall, including complete restoration of the northeast stair tower’s brownstone roof, masonry work on the balance of the south elevation and window restoration first floor of the west elevation. This work is recommended in the Comprehensive Needs Assessment for the Hall approved at the November, 2014 Town Meeting. The second phase of emergency repairs was approved at May 2016 Annual Town Meeting. Upon completion of this work the critical building envelope needs will be addressed.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 26. CPA FUNDING - FROTHINGHAM PARK – GAZEBO CONTRUCTION, TENNIS COURT REHABILITATION

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate up to \$44,000 from available Community Preservation Funds for the purpose of funding the construction of a gazebo and rehabilitating the existing tennis courts at Frothingham Park located at 46 Sheridan Street and listed as Assessors Map 21U, Lot 263. This award is contingent on the applicant submitting design plans for the gazebo to the Community Preservation Committee and the Historical Commission for review and approval prior to construction; and that, prior to authorizing payment of CPA funds for the completed construction of the gazebo, the Community Preservation Committee or its appointed designee confirm the gazebo was constructed according to the approved design plans or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

MOTION: Selectman McIntyre moved and it was seconded that the Town vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate the sum of \$44,000 from Community Preservation Unreserved Fund Balance for the purpose of funding the construction of a gazebo and rehabilitating the existing tennis courts at Frothingham Park located at 46 Sheridan Street and that this award is made contingent on the applicant submitting design plans for the gazebo to the Community Preservation Committee and the Historical Commission for review and approval prior to construction; and that, prior to authorizing payment of CPA funds for the completed construction of the gazebo, the Community Preservation Committee or its appointed designee confirm the gazebo was constructed according to the approved design plans.

Explanation: Costs associated with construction of a gazebo and rehabilitation of the tennis courts within Frothingham Park would be reimbursed up to \$44,000.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 27. CPA FUNDING - AMES FREE LIBRARY SITE IMPROVEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate up to \$200,000 from available Community Preservation Funds for the purpose of improvements to the parking lot and roadways to support the recreational use of Queset Garden and the library located at 51-53 Main Street, Assessors Map 16U, Lots 4 and 8 and 8-12 Theater Way, Assessors Map 16U, Lots 131 and 160 respectively.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

MOTION: Selectman Mills moved and it was seconded that the Town vote in accordance with the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate the sum of \$200,000 from Community Preservation Unreserved Fund Balance for the purpose of improvements to the parking lot and roadways to support the recreational use of Queset Garden and the Ames Free Library as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: This article would fund costs associated with reconstruction of the existing parking lot and driveways servicing the library complex. The number of visitors to the complex has increased substantially since the renovation of the Queset Garden. The existing gravel parking lot cannot accommodate this increase in visitors to the garden in addition to the normal library traffic.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 28. TEMPORARY MORATORIUM OF THE REGULATION AND TAXATION OF MARIJUANA ACT

To see if the Town will vote amend its zoning bylaws by adding the following new Section 12 imposing a temporary moratorium regulating recreational marijuana, as follows:

Section 12. Temporary Moratorium of the Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act

12.1.1. Purpose.

The Initiative Petition for the Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana, also known as Ballot Question Four, Acts 2016, Chapter 334, was approved by voters at the Massachusetts State election on November 8, 2016 (the "Act"). The purpose of the Act is to control the cultivation, production, distribution and sale of marijuana under a system that licenses, regulates and taxes the entities engaged in such activities in a manner similar to alcohol and to make the use of marijuana legal for adults 21 years of age or older. The Act took effect on December 15, 2016, which effective date was postponed for six months pursuant to Acts of 2016, Chapter 351. Section 5 of the Act provides that a town may adopt by-laws that impose reasonable safeguards on the operation of marijuana establishments, provided they are not unreasonably impracticable and are not in conflict with the Act or with regulations made pursuant to the Act. However, the Act contains certain ambiguities and, to date, regulations and anticipated legislative amendments have not been adopted. As a consequence, the means by which a municipality may regulate the sale, distribution and use of recreational marijuana are unclear.

Under the current zoning by-law, a marijuana establishment is not defined and is not a specified permitted use in the town. As this is a new type of land use in the state, there will be unique and new aspects to the use that could require oversight and regulations. These local impacts, which could be legal, land use, public safety, and public health, should be evaluated and addressed in a comprehensive manner in the zoning by-law prior to the permitting of a marijuana establishment. The moratorium, of a finite duration, will allow the town to carefully study the potential impacts, both primary and secondary, of such establishments and, through a directed planning process, recommend zoning by-law amendments to address the town's concerns in the context of comprehensive land-use planning and other town planning goals and objectives.

12.1.2. Definitions. "Marijuana Establishment", a marijuana cultivator, marijuana testing facility, marijuana product manufacturer, marijuana retailer or any other type of licensed marijuana-related business. The definitions set forth in the Act, as amended, shall apply equally to this article. This definition does not include the cultivation, distribution and/or sale of medical marijuana, which is expressly excluded from regulation under the Act.

12.1.3. Establishment and Duration.

- a. Moratorium - No building permit, special permit, variance, site plan or other permit may be issued under this zoning bylaw, and no use of land or structures shall be allowed for the purpose of establishing a Marijuana Establishment.
- b. The moratorium shall be in effect through and including June 30, 2018, or until such time as zoning amendments are adopted that address marijuana establishments, whichever shall be sooner.

12.1.4. Applicability. This Bylaw shall be effective in all zoning districts in the town, including overlay districts. This Bylaw does not apply to the cultivation, distribution or sale of medical marijuana.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Barger moved that the Town vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw of the Town of Easton, adopted at Town Meeting, March 27, 1973 and amended through June 20, 2016 by adding the new Section 12 imposing a temporary moratorium regulating recreational marijuana, as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: The purpose of this article is to preclude the establishment of recreational marijuana dispensaries until such time as the Town has had an opportunity to review and consider impending State

regulations and statutory amendments. Upon the adoption of any such laws, the Town may either prohibit or regulate recreational marijuana cultivation and sales.

Vote Required:	TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Planning Board Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY 2/3 BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 29 . ZONING AMENDMENT: MINOR CORRECTIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

To see if the Town of Easton will vote pursuant to MGL, Chapter 40A, to amend the Zoning Bylaw of the Town of Easton, adopted at Town Meeting, March 27, 1973 and amended through June 20, 2016, by making the following changes thereto, by deleting the text shown with a strikethrough, and inserting the text shown in italics:

Item 1: §6.1.5 TABLE OF OFF-STREET PARKING REGULATIONS – reinsert the following portion of the Table of Off-Street Parking Regulations inadvertently omitted from the 2016 Zoning Bylaw
Recoding:

13. Other school	<i>Two per classroom in an elementary and junior high school. Four per classroom in a senior high plus one space for every ten seats of total seating capacity in auditorium or gymnasium, whichever has the larger capacity.</i>
14. Community facility (Town building, recreation, etc.)	<i>One per each 400 sq. ft. of gross floor space.</i>
15. Dormitory, fraternity, sorority, YMCA or similar use	<i>One for each sleeping room.</i>
16. Public utility	<i>One for each 400 sq. ft. of gross floor area devoted to office use.</i>
17. Transportation terminal establishment	<i>One for each 600 sq. ft. of gross floor area.</i>
18. Multiple use	<i>Shared parking requirement calculated per §7-16 K.6.</i>
19. Bank	<i>Two for each 1,000 sq. ft.</i>
20. Drive-Thru Restaurant	<i>Two for each 1,000 sq. ft.</i>
21. Restaurant	<i>One for each four seats of total seating capacity.</i>
22. Any use permitted by this by-law not interpreted to be covered by this schedule	<i>Closest similar use as determined by the Planning & Zoning Board.</i>

Item 2: §7.1 ADULT ENTERTAINMENT ESTABLISHMENTS.

7.1.1 Purpose. It is the purpose of this Section governing Adult Entertainment Establishments

to address and mitigate the secondary effects of Adult Entertainment Establishments and sexually oriented businesses that are referenced and defined herein. Secondary effects have been shown to include increased crime, adverse impacts on public health, adverse impacts on the business climate of the Town, adverse impacts on the property values of residential and commercial properties, and adverse impacts on the quality of life in the Town. All of said secondary impacts are adverse to the health, safety and general welfare of the Town and its inhabitants.

1. The provisions of this By-Law have neither the purpose nor intent of imposing a limitation on the content of any communicative matter or materials, including sexually oriented matter or materials. Similarly, it is not the purpose or intent of this By-Law to restrict or deny access by adults to Adult Entertainment Establishments or to sexually oriented matter or materials that are protected by the Constitution of the United States of America or of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, nor to restrict or deny rights that distributors or exhibitors of such matter or materials may have to sell, rent, distribute or exhibit such matter or materials. Neither is it the purpose or intent of this By-Law to legalize the sale, rental, distribution or exhibition of obscene or other illegal matter or materials.

7.1.2 Authority. This By-Law is enacted pursuant to G.L. Chapter 40A and pursuant to the Massachusetts Constitution to serve the compelling Town interests of limiting the location of and preventing the clustering and concentration of certain Adult Entertainment Establishments for the reasons set forth, above.

7.1.3 Applicability. An Adult Entertainment Establishment shall be permitted as set forth in the Table of Use Regulations by special permit by the Board of Appeals when the Board determines that the requirements of Sections 10.4 and 10.5, excepting 10.5.2(2 & 4), have been met, and provided further that conditions imposed under Section 10.5.4 shall be limited to conditions that are both content-neutral and the least-restrictive means available of regulating the proposed facility.

7.1.4 Location. Adult Entertainment Establishments may not be located less than 750 (seven hundred fifty) feet from:

1. Each other;
2. Residential uses;
3. Public or private nursery schools;
4. Public or private day care centers;
5. Public or private kindergartens;
6. Public or private elementary schools;
7. Public or private secondary schools;
8. Playgrounds; and
9. Churches, temples or other places of worship

7.1.5 Conditions.

1. In no instance shall the Board of Appeals issue a special permit to any person convicted or violating G.L. c. 119, s. 63 or G.L. c. 272, s. 28.
2. No pictures, publications, electronic media, or other implements, items, or advertising that fall within the definition of adult merchandise shall be displayed in store windows or be visible from areas used by the general public.

Item 3: §9.1.2 AQUIFER PROTECTION OVERLAYS DISTRICTS; ESTABLISHMENT AND LOCATION. The Aquifer Protection Overlays District (APOD) shall be as delineated on the Zoning Map of the Town of Easton and shall be superimposed over any other district established by this By-law. They are based upon a 5-foot contour interval water table map, surficial geologic mapping and ground water modeling.

9.1.3 *PROHIBITED USES.* Within an APOD, the following uses are specifically prohibited:

- 1. Sales or storage of fuels;
- 2. Junk yards;
- 3. Municipal sewage treatment facilities with on-site disposal of primary or secondary treated effluent;
- 4. Packaged sewage treatment plants;
- 5. Car washes;
- 6. Road salt stockpiles not stored in approved structures;
- 7. Dumping of snow from outside the district;
- 8. Dry cleaning establishments;
- 9. Motor vehicle and boat service and repair facilities;
- 10. Metal plating establishments;
- 11. Veterinary clinic/animal hospital;
- ~~12. Planned Business Development~~
- 12. ~~13.~~ Planned Industrial Development;
- ~~13. 14.~~ Chemical and bacteriological laboratories;
- 14. ~~15.~~ Any other use which involves as a principal activity the manufacture, storage, use, transportation or disposal of toxic or hazardous materials, except as allowed by special permit in this Section.
- 15. ~~16.~~ Sanitary Landfills; specifically excluded from this provision is the continued use and vertical expansion of the existing municipal sanitary landfill off Prospect Street in accordance with approval by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
- 16. ~~17.~~ Solid waste facilities; with the specific exception that the existing landfill located off Prospect Street may be converted to a composting facility and/or a solid waste transfer station.
- 17. ~~18.~~ Land filling of sludge and septage.

Item 4: APPENDIX: TABLE OF USE REGULATIONS

PRINCIPAL USES									
A. Residential Uses	R	R1	B	BN	I	E	M	QCD	VBD
1. Single family dwelling	Y	Y	Y	ZBA	N	ZBA	N	N	ZBA
2. One 2-family or one duplex dwelling	PZB	PZB	PZB	N	N	N	N	B	PZB
3. Multifamily Dwellings (See Sec. 8.4)	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
4. Conversion of an existing dwelling to two dwelling units	PZB	PZB	Y	N	N	N	N	B	PZB
5. Mixed Use	N	N	Pzb	N	N	N	N	PZB/ AC	Y
6. Assisted living residence (See Sec. 8.2)	ZBA PZB	ZBA PZB	ZBA PZB	N	N	N	N	N	ZBA PZB

7. Bed and breakfast (See Sec. 8.3) * ZBAPZB for 5 to 10 rooms for rent	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y
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¹Under Queset Commercial (QCD), letter designations A, B, or C refer to the subdistricts. Where Y appears the use is permitted anywhere in the QCD
² Provided that in the Queset Commercial District, mixed-use development shall be permitted only if at least 2/3 of the total gross floor area in the project is used for Office, Retail or Restaurant Uses permitted under Subsections D and E of Section 5.3.

Submitted by Planning & Zoning Board

MOTION: Selectman Barger moved and it was seconded that the Town vote pursuant to MGL, Chapter 40A, to amend the Zoning Bylaw of the Town of Easton, adopted at Town Meeting, March 27, 1973 and amended through June 20, 2016, by making changes as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: In 2016, the Planning and Zoning Board updated the Zoning Bylaw. During the drafting of the Recoded Bylaw a portion of the Off-Street Parking was inadvertently omitted; Planned Business Developments were not intended to be included in the list of prohibited uses within the Aquifer Protection District; and the Zoning Board of Appeals, rather than the Planning and Zoning Board was listed in the Table of Use Regulations as the Special Permitting Authority for Assisted Living Residences and Bed and Breakfast establishments of a certain size. Additionally, the Attorney General's office disallowed section 7.1 of the recoded bylaw as it did not provide clear direction as to when a Special Permit for an Adult Entertainment Establishment must be allowed.

Vote Required:	TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Planning Board Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY 2/3 BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 30. DISPOSITION OF TOWN LAND

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey two certain parcels of land at 6 and 10 Electric Avenue, upon such terms and conditions, and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town for the purpose of developing the parcels as a single lot for the construction of one single-family house containing no more than three bedrooms and subject to a deed restriction for occupancy by an income-eligible household such that the unit would be eligible for inclusion on the Massachusetts Subsidized Housing Inventory as affordable housing, or take any other relative action thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Barger moved and it was seconded that the Town authorize the Selectmen to convey two parcels, such conveyance being contingent upon the recording of an affordability restriction on said property, as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: 6 and 10 Electric Avenue are two parcels of land taken by tax-title. A preliminary site development feasibility study indicates that these two parcels might be merged into one and be suitable for the development of up to a three-bedroom house. The purpose of this article would be to allow the Selectmen to convey the parcel to a non-profit developer.

Vote Required:	TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY 2/3 BY THE MODERATOR

**ARTICLE 31. REQUEST TO CHANGE DEFINITION OF SECTION 2.6.1
OF THE 2016 EASTON ZONING BYLAWS**

Current definition codified in Section 2.6.1 of the 2016 Town of Easton zoning by laws in its present text states:

“When a lot is situated in part in the Town of Easton and in part in an adjacent municipality, the provisions of this bylaw shall be applied to the portion of such lot in the Town of Easton in the same manner as if the entire lot were situated in the Town of Easton.”

Proposed new definition codified in Section 2.6.1 of the 2016 Town of Easton zoning by law shall state:

“When a lot is situated in part in the Town of Easton and in part in an adjacent municipality, the land located in an adjacent municipality may be combined with land located in the Town of Easton to comply with the area and dimensional requirements of the Town of Easton zoning bylaws provided that: (1) the use of the portion of the land that lies within Easton must comply with the underlying Easton zoning district in which the land sits; (2) the lot to be created has the frontage along a public or private way located in the Town of Easton; and, (3) any structure(s) must be built wholly within the Town of Easton.”

Submitted by Citizen Petition

MOTION: Charles Malo moved and it was seconded that the Town vote pursuant to MGL, Chapter 40A, to amend the Zoning Bylaw of the Town of Easton, adopted at Town Meeting, March 27, 1973 and amended through June 20, 2016, by making changes as printed in the warrant, Article 31.

Explanation: The purpose of Article 31 is to clearly clarify and redefine the poorly written and ill-defined wording in the existing bylaw. The current bylaw was adopted in 1973. For 44 years since the bylaw was adopted it was interpreted that you were allowed to combine land in two towns to create a legally conforming lot. This occurred in over 24 instances, both in lots in sub-divisions and ANR (approval not required) or more commonly known as Form “A” lots. A few months ago this bylaw was interpreted to mean that one cannot combine their land.

Vote Required:	TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	NO ACTION
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Planning Board Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

A counted vote was taken:
YES - 102 NO - 56

DECLARED FAILED BY THE MODERATOR

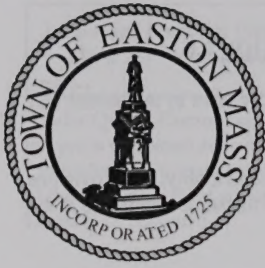
ARTICLE 32.

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

The Annual Town Meeting was declared Adjourned at 10:23 PM.

ATTEST:

Danielle M. Sicard
Town Clerk



**TOWN OF EASTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
WARRANT AND RESULTS
NOVEMBER 13, 2017**

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Easton in the County of Bristol:
GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Easton qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium in said Easton on Monday, the 13th day of November, next, at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act upon the following articles:

The Moderator congratulated Connor Read on his official appointment as the Town Administrator. The Moderator reviewed some town meeting rules & procedures and noted that the glossary of terms is located at the back of the Warrant. She introduced several Boy & Cubs Scouts from the Town of Easton who led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A quorum of registered voters of the Town of Easton being present and the proper return of the Warrant being met, Town Moderator Kate Welch called the November 13, 2017 Special Town Meeting, held in the Auditorium of Oliver Ames High School, to order at 7:04 PM.

ARTICLE 1. TRANSFER TO STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from free cash a sum of money to be placed into the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Fulginiti moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from free cash the sum of \$600,206 to be placed into the Stabilization Fund.

Explanation: This article transfers 25% of certified free cash to the stabilization fund in accordance with the on-going goal to build up reserves.

<i>Vote Required:</i>	<i>SIMPLE MAJORITY</i>
<i>Selectmen Recommendation:</i>	<i>RECOMMENDED</i>
<i>Finance Committee Recommendation:</i>	<i>RECOMMENDED</i>

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 2. TRANSFER TO CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money into the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Fulginiti moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from available mitigation funds the sum of \$1,000,000 to be placed into the Capital Stabilization Fund.

Explanation: This article will transfer mitigation funds received from Avalon Bay in the amount of \$1,000,000 to the capital stabilization fund to build up reserves for future capital projects.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 3. SUPPLEMENT FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$41,672 to supplement fiscal year 2018 departmental budgets, as follows:

Reserve Fund	\$14,027
Town Clerk	5,645
Fire Department	<u>22,000</u>
	<u>\$41,672</u>

or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman McIntyre moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$41,672 which shall be raised by taxation to supplement fiscal year 2018 departmental budgets, as follows:

Reserve Fund	\$14,027
Town Clerk	\$ 5,645
Fire Department	<u>\$22,000</u>
	<u>\$41,672</u>

Explanation: The reserve fund requires replenishment of funds previously transferred to commence work on phase II of the town code project, as phase I was completed ahead of schedule. The town clerk's budget requires additional funding for the third and final phase of the town code project, which is to be completed this winter. The fire department requires a supplement for grant matching funds related to a recently awarded federal grant, which will allow the Town to hire four additional fire fighters.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 4. FUNDING FOR REVALUATION

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$60,000 to pay for expenses related to the FY 2020 State Certified Revaluation including annual interim updates, cyclical inspections or any other expenses related to the revaluation of property as may be determined by the Board of Assessors, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman McIntyre moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from overlay surplus the sum of \$60,000 to pay for expenses related to the fiscal year 2020 State Certified Revaluation as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: The Department of Revenue requires an annual updating of property values, known as "interim updates" as well as the regular state certification of values that is done every three years. The state certification is scheduled for fiscal 2020 but the work has to be done in advance and the Town has to show the Department of Revenue that it has a plan in place and has also appropriated sufficient money to accomplish this plan.

Vote Required: *SIMPLE MAJORITY*
Selectmen Recommendation: *RECOMMENDED*
Finance Committee Recommendation: *RECOMMENDED*

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 5. SUPPLEMENT FY2018 CAPITAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by borrowing, or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money to supplement the capital budget needs of the Town for fiscal year 2018, or take any other action relative thereto.

<u>Department/Capital Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Fire - Rescue Pumper Truck	587,000
Fire - Turnout Gear	15,000
Fire - Mobile/Portable Radio Replacements	11,000
Police – 3 Cruisers	123,919
Information Technology – Computer Replacements	27,984
DPW Pavement Management	<u>500,000</u>
Total	<u>1,264,903</u>

Submitted by Town Administrator

MOTION: Selectman Mills moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,272,004, for the purpose of supplementing the capital budget needs of the Town for fiscal year 2018 as listed in the warrant under Article 5, provided that the amount for the three police cruisers be amended by \$7,101 to \$131,020 as shown on the screen and that to meet this appropriation, \$185,004 shall be raised by taxation and that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow \$1,087,000 for the fire rescue pumper truck and DPW pavement management under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44 or any other enabling authority, provided that in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, the premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bond or notes, may be applied to pay project costs and the amount authorized to be borrowed for each such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to do or take all actions necessary to carry out these projects on behalf of or in the name of the Town.

As shown on screen and as voted:

<u>Department/Capital Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Fire - Rescue Pumper Truck	587,000

Fire - Turnout Gear	15,000
Fire - Mobile/Portable Radio Replacements	11,000
Police – 3 Cruisers	131,020
Information Technology – Computer Replacements	27,984
DPW Pavement Management	<u>500,000</u>
Total	<u><u>1,272,004</u></u>

Explanation: This article addresses additional capital needs for fiscal 2018 that were previously deferred at the annual town meeting. Due to higher repair rates, the police department is changing the type of cruiser to be purchased from a Ford utility to a Dodge Charger, requiring additional funds.

Vote Required: TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation: RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation: RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 6. SCHOOL FEASIBILITY STUDY

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$1,000,000 to be expended under the direction of the School Planning Committee for a feasibility study, of the Center School located at 388 Depot Street, Easton, Massachusetts, 02375 for which feasibility study the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). The MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in connection with the feasibility study in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town.

Submitted by School Planning Committee

MOTION: Selectman Mills moved and it was seconded that the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of a feasibility study of the Center School located at 388 Depot Street, South Easton, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the Town of Easton may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), said amount to be expended under the direction of the School Planning Committee, and that to meet this appropriation \$1,000,000 shall be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund and further that the Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town of Easton.

Explanation: This appropriation would provide necessary funding for a feasibility and suitability study for the Center Elementary School located at 388 Depot Street. The Town is working with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) on the possibility of renovating and/or building a new Pre-K to 2 school and this is the next step in the process. The appropriation would utilize a \$1,000,000 mitigation payment to the Town by Avalon Bay intended to support Easton Public Schools.

Vote Required: TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation: RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation: RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 7. APPROPRIATION OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE QUESSET SEWER PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 21 of the May 18, 2015 Annual Town Meeting to appropriate by borrowing an additional sum of money in the amount of \$900,000, such that the total amount appropriated is \$3,690,000, for the design, permitting and construction of the Queset Commercial District Wastewater Collection system and appurtenances including any and all pumping stations and treatment works or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

MOTION: Selectman Barger moved and it was seconded to amend Article 21 of the May 18, 2015 Annual Town Meeting so that the amended vote reads as follows:

“that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,690,000 for the design, permitting and construction of the Queset Commercial District Wastewater Collection system and appurtenances including any and all pumping stations and treatment works, including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws; and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow \$3,690,000 and issue bonds or notes therefor under Chapter 44 of the General Laws and/or Chapter 29C of the General Laws; that such bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town unless the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen determines that they should be issued as limited obligations and may be secured by local system revenues as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C; that the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow all or a portion of such amount from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust established pursuant to Chapter 29C and in connection therewith to enter into a loan agreement and/or security agreement with the Trust and otherwise to contract with the Trust and the Department of Environmental Protection with respect to such loan; that the Selectmen are authorized to enter into a project regulatory agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection; that the Selectmen, acting as Sewer Commissioners, be authorized to apply for, accept, and expend any federal and/or state grants or other aid available for the project or for the financing thereof to help reduce the local share impacts of the project; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to do or take any other action necessary to carry out this project on behalf of or in the name of the Town.”

Explanation: This article will supplement the \$2,790,000 appropriation voted by Town Meeting in May of 2015 and provide necessary funding to construct the long-planned Queset Sewer project. Bids for this project came in above the previous appropriation, with construction related items such as the pump station and MassDOT pavement requirements driving cost up and necessitating this request for additional funding.

Vote Required:	TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY 2/3 BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 8. AMENDING THE STREET OPENING BYLAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend its General Bylaws by replacing Article II and III of Chapter 202 with the following:

Article II: Opening of Streets and Sidewalks

§202-8 Street Opening Permits Required

1. Excavations

No person or utility shall make any excavation, modify, or fill any excavation within the limits of any public way or right of way without first obtaining a Street Opening Permit to do so from the Director of Public Works. Any excavation within the Town's streets, sidewalks, or other public right of way

shall only be permitted in accordance with the Town of Easton Street Opening Regulations, as may be amended from time to time by the Board of Selectmen. The granting of such permit shall require all such activities to conform to the Town of Easton, Street Opening Regulations, as existing at the time of application.

Obstructions in the Public Way

No person shall place or locate any temporary obstruction within any Public Right of Way without first obtaining a Street Opening Permit to do so from the Director of Public Works. Any obstruction within the Town's streets, sidewalks, or other public Right of Way shall only be permitted in accordance with the Town of Easton Street Opening Regulations. An obstruction shall include, but not be limited to, dumpsters, unregistered vehicles or machinery (such as construction machines and equipment), construction materials, or other such object or objects which are not specifically permitted under state or local regulations and which may, in the opinion of the Director of Public Works pose a potential hazard to the general public.

2. Other Activities

A Street Opening Permit is required from the Director of Public Works in accordance with the Town of Easton Street Opening Regulations for the following activities:

- a) Repairing or replacing any sidewalk or walkway in the public right of way;
- b) Resurfacing, widening, or closing in an existing driveway within the public way;
- c) Installing a new driveway

§202-9 - §202-20 – Reserved

Article III – Reserved

§202-21 - §202-26 – Reserved

Submitted by Department of Public Works

MOTION: Selectman Barger moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to amend Articles II and III of Chapter 202 of its General Bylaws, as printed in the warrant.

Explanation: This article modifies the existing street opening bylaw by removing technical specifications including specific requirement, fees, etc. These technical specifications and fees will be included in Street Opening Regulations that will be adopted and amended by the Board of Selectmen as needed.

<i>Vote Required:</i>	SIMPLE MAJORITY
<i>Selectmen Recommendation:</i>	RECOMMENDED
<i>Finance Committee Recommendation:</i>	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 9. STREET ACCEPTANCE CHASE LANDING

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to MGL Chapter 82, to accept, as a public way, Chase Landing from Station 0+00 to Station 3+85.82, and to further accept easements in related drainage infrastructure, all as shown on a plan entitled "Chase Landing Definitive Subdivision of Land in EASTON, MASS" dated March 10, 2006 and revised through September 28, 2006 prepared by Hayward-Boynton & Williams, Inc., Civil Engineers & Land Surveyors, 140 School Street, Brockton, MA, recorded at the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 456, Page 75, as more particularly described on a certain plan entitled "Street As-Built Plan, Chase Landing, Station 0+0 to Station 3+85.82, Easton Massachusetts"

dated March 25, 2016, revised through June 24, 2016 signed and stamped by Pilling Engineering Group, Inc., 105R Depot Street, Easton, MA, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept a deed or deeds in easement or fee for said Chase Landing and associated drainage easements, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by Planning and Zoning Board

MOTION: Selectman Fulginiti moved and it was seconded that the Town vote to accept Chase Landing as a public way, as printed in the warrant, and to authorize the Town, acting by and through the Board of Selectmen, to accept deeds in fee or easement of such way, along with associated drainage and other accessory easements

Explanation: The work on this street is completed and it is ready to be accepted as a Public Way.

Vote Required:	SIMPLE MAJORITY
Selectmen Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Finance Committee Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED
Planning Board Recommendation:	RECOMMENDED

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 10.

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

The Special Town Meeting was declared Adjourned at 7:57 PM.

ATTEST:

Danielle M. Sicard
Town Clerk

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AT YOUR SERVICE

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Board of Selectmen	508-230-0501
Collector	508-230-0610
Commission on Disabilities	508-230-0586
Conservation Commission	508-230-0640
Council on Aging	508-238-3160
Department of Public Works	508-230-0800
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Police Department	508-230-3322
Recreation Department	508-238-3084
Town Accountant	508-230-0560
Town Administrator	508-230-0510
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Treasurer	508-230-0600
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Parkview School	508-230-3230

**EASTON EMERGENCY
POLICE
FIRE
MUNICIPAL AMBULANCE**

DIAL 911